

RM
off

Desert

WESTERN TRAVEL / ADVENTURE / LIVING

MAY 1968

50c



**DESERT SURVIVAL
TWENTYNINE PALMS
PINACATE EXPLORED**

Desert Magazine BOOK Shop

GOLD RUSH COUNTRY by the editors of *Sunset Books*. A revised and up-dated practical guide to California's Mother Lode country. Divided into geographical areas for easy weekend trips, the 8 x 11 heavy paperback new edition is profusely illustrated with photos and maps. Special features and anecdotes of historical and present day activities. 4-color cover, 96 pages, \$1.95.

MAMMALS OF THE SOUTHWEST DESERTS by George Olin. Newly revised edition describes the mammals of the deserts with artist illustrations of the animals and their footprints for easy identification. Paperback, 112 pages, \$1.00.

100 ROADSIDE FLOWERS by Nat N. Dodge. A companion book to his **100 DESERT WILDFLOWERS**, this book lists 100 flowers growing in the 4,500 to 7,000 foot levels. Like the companion book, every flower is illustrated in 4-color photographs. Excellent to carry in car during weekend trips for family fun. Paperback, 64 pages, \$1.50.

DESERT GARDENING by the editors of *Sunset Books*. Written exclusively for desert gardeners, this book is climate zoned with maps pinpointing five diverse desert zones. Calendar presents plans for care of plantings throughout the year. Illustrated, 8 x 11 heavy paperback, \$1.95.

GHOST TOWNS OF THE COLORADO ROCKIES by Robert L. Brown. Written by the author of *Jeep Trails to Colorado Ghost Towns* this book deals with ghost towns accessible by passenger car. Gives directions and maps for finding towns along with historical backgrounds. Hardcover, 401 pages, \$6.25.

HAPPY WANDERER TRIPS by Slim Barnard. Well-known TV stars Henrietta and Slim Barnard have put together a selection of 52 of their trips through California taken from their *Happy Wanderer* travel shows. Has excellent maps, history, costs of gasoline consumption, lodging, meals plus what to wear and best time to make trips. Can't be beat for families planning weekend excursions. Paperback, large format, 100 pages, \$2.95.

RETIRE TO ADVENTURE by Harrison M. Karr. Instead of retiring to an armchair the author and his wife retired to a travel trailer and visited Canada, the United States and Mexico. Practical approach to trailer living problems and trailer clubs. After reading this book you'll want to retire to adventure even though too young to retire! Paperback, 121 pages, \$1.95.

ANTIQUA BOTTLES by Marvin and Helen Davis. Paperback, full color, 62 pages, \$3.00.

COOKING AND CAMPING IN THE DESERT by Choral Pepper. Foreword by Erle Stanley Gardner and special section on **desert driving and surviving** by Jack Pepper. A book to read cover-to-cover for anyone who travels back country roads. Up-to-date cooking ideas which bring gourmet fare into camp with little effort. 12-page section of exclusive desert camping photos with lots of ideas for places to go. Beautiful hardcover book, \$3.95.

CAMPING AND CLIMBING IN BAJA by John W. Robinson. Guide to the Sierra San Pedro Martir and Sierra Juarez of upper Baja California. Paper, \$2.95.

ALL OF MEXICO and Guatemala at low cost by Norman Ford. Excellent guide for do-it-yourself traveler. Paper. \$2.00.

WHEN ORDERING BOOKS PLEASE

Add 50 cents PER ORDER
(Not Each Book)
for handling and mailing

California residents add 5 percent sales tax, regardless of whether you are a Republican or Democrat.

Send check or money order to Desert Magazine Book Shop, Palm Desert, California 92260. Sorry, but we cannot accept charges or C.O.D. orders.

HISTORIC SPOTS IN CALIFORNIA Revised by William N. Abeloe. Only complete guide to California landmarks with maps, photos and lively text covering both historical and modern eras. 639 pages, \$10.00.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK IN BAJA by Erle Stanley Gardner. About people and places in enchanting Baja California of Mexico. Colored photos, 368 pages, \$8.95.

HANDBOOK OF CRYSTAL AND MINERAL COLLECTING by William Sanborn. Describes environment typical of collection sites and physical properties of minerals and crystals. Paper, 81 pages, \$2.00.

REDIGGING THE WEST for old time bottles by Lynn Blumenstein. Photographs of over 700 bottles with articles that tell the story and a photograph of each. \$4.25.

THE LIFE OF THE DESERT by Ann and Myron Sutton. Covers desert creatures, perennial water problems and how animals and plants survive. 231 pages, \$4.95.

ANOTHER WILDERNESS CONQUERED by Grady Setzler. An informal history of the Blythe-Palo Verde Valley in Southern California. Hardcover. \$5.50.

EXPLORING JOSHUA TREE by Roger Mitchell. Excellent guide to Joshua Tree National Monument in Southern California. Paper. \$1.00.

FABULOUS MEXICO Where Everything Costs Less by Norman Ford. Covers investing, vacationing and retiring prospects in Mexico. Paperback. \$1.50.

A GUIDE TO WESTERN GHOST TOWNS by Lambert Florin. Includes maps and mileages of ghost towns in 15 western states. Large format, cardboard cover, \$2.25.

DEATH VALLEY BOOKS

Published by the Death Valley '49ers these four volumes have been selected by '49ers as outstanding works on the history of Death Valley. All are durable paperback on slick stock.

A NATURALIST'S DEATH VALLEY (Revised edition) by Edmund C. Jaeger, ScD.....\$1.50

MANLY AND DEATH VALLEY. Symbols of Destiny, by Ardis Manly Walker\$1.25

GOODBYE, DEATH VALLEY! The story of the Jayhawk Party, by L. Burr Belden.....\$1.50

CAMELS AND SURVEYORS IN DEATH VALLEY By Arthur Woodward\$2.00

DEATH VALLEY TALES by 10 different authors\$1.25

A FIELD GUIDE TO WESTERN REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS by Robert C. Stebbins. A Peterson Field guide. 207 species, 569 illustrations, 185 in full color, 192 maps. The best book of this type. Hardcover. \$4.95.

RETIRE TO ADVENTURE by Harrison Karr. Author writes about trailer living problems and advantages. Paper. \$1.95.

1200 BOTTLES PRICED by John C. Tibbitts. Updated edition of one of the best of the bottle books. \$4.50.

CALIFORNIA, A Guide to the Golden State. Edited by Harry Hansen and newly revised, it contains an encyclopedia of facts from early days up to the Space Age. Mile by mile descriptions to camping spots and commercial accommodations. Maps. Hardcover, \$7.95.

THE MYSTERIOUS WEST by Brad Williams and Choral Pepper. Rare book examines legends that cannot be proven true, nor untrue. New evidence presented in many cases which may change the history of the West. Hardcover. \$5.95.

ANZA-BORREGO DESERT GUIDE by Horace Parker. Second edition of this well-illustrated and documented book is enlarged considerably. Tops among guidebooks, it is equally recommended for research material in an area that was crossed by Anza, Kit Carson, the Mormon Battalion, '49ers, Railroad Survey parties, Pegleg Smith, the Jackass Mail, Butterfield Stage, and today's adventurous tourists. 139 pages, cardboard cover, \$2.95.

ON DESERT TRAILS by Randall Henderson, founder and publisher of *Desert Magazine* for 23 years. One of the first good writers to reveal the beauty of the mysterious desert areas. Henderson's experiences, combined with his comments on the desert of yesterday and today, make this a MUST for those who really want to understand the desert. 375 pages, illustrated. Hardcover. \$5.00.

RARE MAP REPRODUCTIONS from the year 1886. Series I includes three maps, Arizona, California and Nevada. Series II includes New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. Reproduced on fine paper. They show old towns, mines, springs and trails now extinct. Each set of three, \$3.75. Be sure to state series number with order.

THE DESERT LAKE by Sessions S. Wheeler. The story of Nevada's intriguing Pyramid Lake, its ancient history, archeological finds, geology, fish and bird life. Paperback. \$1.95.

NEVADA'S TURBULENT YESTERDAYS by Don Ashbaugh. The best book about Nevada's ghost towns and the rugged individuals who built them. 346 pages, \$7.50.

SKY ISLAND by Weldon F. Heald. Informative, first-person narrative about the climate, wild life, unusual guests, terrain and vegetation found only in the remote Chiricahua area where the author lived. \$5.95.

ROCK ART OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN by Campbell Grant. First reliable, well-illustrated book written about American Indian petroglyphs and pictographs. \$12.95.

EXPLORING CALIFORNIA BYWAYS from Kings Canyon to the Mexican Border by Russ Leabrand. Maps for each trip with photographs, historical information, recreational facilities, campsites, hiking trails, etc. Paper, 165 pages, \$1.95.

MAY, 1968**JACK PEPPER***Publisher***CHORAL PEPPER***Editor***ELTA SHIVELY***Executive Secretary***MARVEL BARRETT***Business***LLOYD SHIVELY***Circulation***EVALYNE SMITH***Subscriptions***JACK DELANEY***Staff Writer***BILL BRYAN***Back Country Editor***AL MERRYMAN***Staff Artist*

EDITORIAL OFFICES: 74-109 Larrea, Palm Desert, California 92260. Area Code 714 346-8144. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs not accompanied by self addressed, stamped and zip coded envelopes will NOT be returned.

ADVERTISING OFFICES: James March & Associates Inc., 1709 West 8th Street, Los Angeles, California 90017, Hubbard 3-0561—115 New Montgomery, San Francisco, California 94105, DOuglas 2-4994. Listed in Standard Rate & Data.

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT: 74-109 Larrea, Palm Desert, California 92260. Area Code 714 346-8144. DESERT MAGAZINE is published monthly; 1 year, \$5.00; 2 years, \$9.50; 3 years, \$13.00. Foreign subscribers add 75 cents for postage. See Subscription Order Form in back of this issue.

DESERT is published monthly by Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. Second Class Postage paid at Palm Desert, Calif., and at additional mailing offices under Act of March 3, 1879. Title registered NO. 358865 in U. S. Patent Office, and contents copyrighted 1968 by Desert Magazine. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs cannot be returned or acknowledged unless full return postage is enclosed. Permission to reproduce contents must be secured from the editor in writing. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$5.00 per year in U.S., Canada and Mexico. \$5.75 elsewhere. Allow five weeks for change of address. Be sure to send both old and new address.

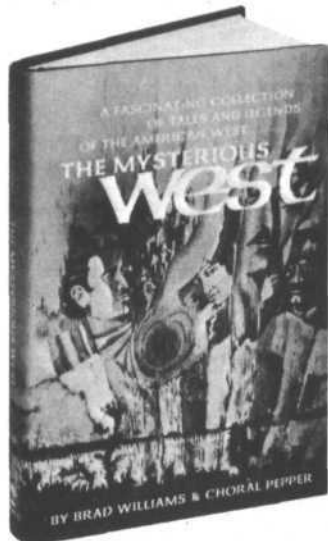
CONTENTS

- 4 Book Reviews
- 5 New Partner for DESERT Magazine
- 6 Sails on the Desert
By GARY MOORE
- 7 Oldest and Newest Capitols
By W. THETFORD LeVINESS
- 8 Discovery Shows Desert Once Verdant
By WELDON WOODSON
- 10 Rocks in My Head
By JACK SHEPPARD
- 12 Adobe Renaissance
By DONALD FOSTER
- 14 Gold Under Red Bluff
By HARRISON DOYLE
- 16 Come Back Alive
By AL PEARCE
- 20 What's in a Name
By WILLIAM THORNTON
- 22 The Jackpot Town
By JACK DELANEY
- 26 Pegleg Logic
By J. A. LENTZ
- 30 Exploring the Pinacates
By ROBERT TOWNSEND
- 32 Mountaineering on the Desert
By BUDDY MAYS
- 34 Bingham, Utah
By LAMBERT FLORIN
- 37 Lee Oertle's page
By LEE OERTLE
- 38 Back Country Travel
- 42 DESERT Cookery
By LUCILLE CARLESON
- 43 Letters

MAY COLOR PHOTOS

Spring time is flower time in the West so the two sons of photographer Don Valentine headed for Antelope Valley, California to frolic through the poppies and owl clover. With the recent rains, flowers are popping up all over giving photographers a field day. The inside photograph by Kenneth L. White, Long Beach, depicts the scenic beauty of Hidden Valley in Joshua Tree National Monument in Riverside County, Calif.

New factual evidence on the legends of the West



*By Brad Williams and
Choral Pepper*

This book examines many little-known stories and legends that have emerged from the western region of North America.

Included are such phenomena as the discovery of a Spanish galleon in the middle of the desert; the strange curse that rules over San Miguel Island; the discovery of old Roman artifacts buried near Tucson, Arizona; the unexplained beheading of at least 13 victims in the Nahanni Valley; and many other equally bewildering happenings. Elaborate confidence schemes and fantastically imagined hoaxes are documented, along with new factual evidence that seems to corroborate what were formerly assumed to be tall tales.

Hardcover, illustrated, 192 pages.
\$5.95

Send check or money order to
Desert Magazine Book Shop,
Palm Desert, Calif. 92260

Add 50 cents for postage and
handling. California residents
additional 30 cents tax.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE SALTON SEA

By Mildred de Stanley

The author traces the history of the Salton Sea area from several million years ago when it was a giant inland sea to a later date when prehistoric Indians lived and hunted around a fresh water lake. In turn this fresh water lake evaporated and it was not until the mighty Colorado broke its banks and filled the area to create the present Salton Sea. She then describes the present day progress and attractions of the area and takes readers on tours of the area. Illustrated, maps, 125 pages, paperback, \$1.00.

GOLD RUSH COUNTRY

By the editors of Sunset Books

This practical guide to travel in California's Mother Lode country has been revised and up-dated to give an accurate account of the gold rush communities as they exist today.

It is divided into convenient geographic areas for easy traveling from south to north—the Mariposa area, Sonora area, Jackson area, Placerville area, Auburn area, Grass Valley area, Oroville area and the Downieville area. Each section is vividly described in text and photographs along with a detailed map of the area. They are also arranged so a family can schedule a weekend of enjoyable exploration.

Throughout the book there are also special features and anecdotes of the fascinating history of the area such as wild west robberies, political happenings and

Books reviewed may be ordered from the DESERT Magazine Book Order Department, Palm Desert, California 92260. Please include 50c for handling. California residents must add 5% sales tax. Enclose payment with order.

discoveries. Other sections include a chronology of events, methods of mining and even a vignette on "Lola and Lotta . . . A Flashy Pair of Queens." The regular 8 x 11 Sunset Books size on good stock, profusely illustrated, 96 pages, paperback with 4-color cover, \$1.95. Highly recommended for both active and armchair travelers.

MAMMALS of SW DESERTS

By George Olin

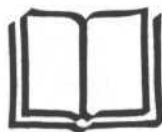
Published in co-operation with the National Park Service by the Southwestern Monuments Association this newly revised edition gives complete and detailed descriptions of the mammals of the southwest deserts including art illustrations of the animals and their footprints for easy identification. Written for the laymen it also describes the mammals' habits and environment. Excellent to carry in the car for family outings. Paperback, 112 pages, \$1.00.

100 ROADSIDE FLOWERS

By Natt N. Dodge

A companion book to the author's popular "100 Desert Wildflowers in Natural Color" this book is for flowers at 4,500 to 7,500 feet above sea level. Like its companion book it is richly illustrated with 4-color photographs of all the flowers along with descriptions and when they bloom. One hundred wild flowers are described in detail. For photographers there is a page on how to shoot good flower photographs. Perfect to keep in the glove compartment of your car. Slick, 64 pages, \$1.50, the same price as "100 Desert Wildflowers" which can also be obtained at Desert Magazine Book Shop.

BOOKS



DESERT MAGAZINE
Order FREE Catalogue
Palm Desert, California 92260
BOOK STORE

Desert MAGAZINE HAS NEW PARTNER

We are happy to introduce a new partner with Jack Pepper in the ownership of DESERT Magazine. William Knyvett is not new to the desert, however, nor to this publication. His firm has been setting type for DESERT for three years and he has been a desert dweller for over a decade. Improvements in the readability and appearance of DESERT in recent years have been due largely to his personal attention. He has now purchased half-interest in DESERT from this writer, Choral Pepper, and his vitality will influence further improvements.

With this, my last issue as editor of DESERT Magazine, I want to thank our loyal readers for their wonderful letters, their encouragement and their help through the five years I have held this position—years during which DESERT's circulation has doubled. This kind of progress, of course, has not been due to our efforts and those of our staff alone. Friends like Erle Stanley Gardner who invited readers through these pages to share in his back-country explorations, and our anonymous Mr. Pegleg whose discovery of the black gold nuggets proved that the Old West isn't entirely dead contributed colorful bonanzas to the editorial department.

Other writers, like L. Burr Belden, Sam Hicks, Dorothy Robertson, Lucille Carleson, Dr. William Osborne, Ken Marquiss, Raye Price, Jack Delaney, Lambert Florin, Harrison Doyle, Eugene McAllister, Janice Beaty, and many, many others upon whom we have depended to keep the copy coming in and the quality going up have made possible this success. It

is with a sense of loss that I give up these stimulating contacts and my association with DESERT readers, many of whom have become warm personal friends.

My plans for the future are indefinite, but until they become firm, I will remain in Palm Desert to finish a book and to write free-lance articles

for DESERT and other travel publications. It will always be a pleasure to hear from readers and I hope that my adventures with DESERT Magazine in the past have enriched your experience as much as having the privilege to share them with you has enriched mine.

Choral Pepper

TWO GUIDES TO COLORADO'S COLORFUL PAST

For the Jeep Enthusiast . . .

JEEP TRAILS TO COLORADO GHOST TOWNS by Robert L. Brown.

An illustrated guide to the mining camps deep in the almost inaccessible Colorado Rockies. Important during the gold and silver rushes, the camps now stand deserted on forgotten back trails passable only by four-wheel drive vehicles, foot, or horseback. 103 photographs and endsheet map, 245 pages\$5.50

For a Family Outing . . .

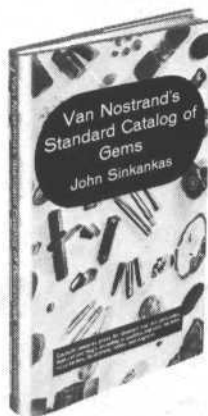
GHOST TOWNS OF THE COLORADO ROCKIES by Robert L. Brown.

Now, for the person who doesn't own a four-wheel drive vehicle, here is a guide to 60 easily accessible ghost towns in the Colorado Rockies. Accompanied by a unique collection of early and contemporary photographs of the sites to aid in identification, and with explicit travel directions. 154 photographs and endsheet map, 401 pages\$6.25

The CAXTON PRINTERS, Ltd.
Caldwell, Idaho 83605



Rockhounds and Hunters Will Enjoy



VAN NOSTRAND'S STANDARD CATALOG OF GEMS

By John Sinkankas

A carefully compiled reference of prices of gemstones, rough and cut, including carvings and other ornamental objects such as pearls. Its detailed treatment of quality, size, color, rarity, hardness, fashion enables the user to analyze and evaluate good and bad features. Complete with tables, diagrams and a wealth of precise information from the author's vast experience. 386 pages. Illustrated. \$7.95; \$5.95 paper.

WHITEWINGS: The Life History, Status and Management of the White-winged Dove

Edited by Clarence Cottam and James B. Trefethen. 80 drawings, photos, and color paintings. 320 pages. \$7.50.

Be sure to mention



when you patronize our advertisers



120 Alexander St.
Princeton, N. J. 08540

Clyde Forsythe's Famous . . .

Gold Strike Series

Four Mining Camp Scenes

All In 4-Color

Each 14"x17" with white margins
on high quality paper suitable for
framing.

No lettering or folds.

ONLY

\$2.50

A SET

Postage & Tax included

Send Check or Money Order to

Desert Magazine Book Shop,
Palm Desert, Calif. 92260
No Charges Please.

WESTERN GATEWAYS

Magazine of the Golden Circle

WESTERN GATEWAYS IS A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FEATURING TRAVEL INFORMATION, MAPS, ARTICLES, AND PICTURES OF THE INDIAN COUNTRY, UTAH'S CANYONLANDS, LAKE POWELL, AND THE FOUR CORNERS AREA.

Join us in time for the
Summer issue, featuring

- Off the Boatin' Path—where the real scenery is
- A detailed list of the Marina facilities at Lake Powell
- Up-to-date Map of the Lake

Western Gateways • P. O. Box 428
Flagstaff, Ariz. 86001

☐ 1 yr. \$1.80

☐ 3 yrs. \$4.50

Send to:

Name _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Sailing on the Desert

by Gary Moore



ALL desert travelers at one time or another have seen a mirage, usually of water on a dry lake. I'll bet though, you've never seen sails floating across that water. I have. As you approach a mirage it usually disappears. Not so my sails—because they were real; not attached to a hull, but to wheels.

These modern-day wind-wagons are becoming a popular sport on the Southern California deserts.

As I crossed the dry lake I took a heading toward an armada of sails flocked around a converted bus. From the shade of a parachute covered shelter, I was greeted by friendly shadows. "What time do you start sailing?" I queried.

"As soon as the westerly come up—about 4:00. See that haze near the buttes? In about half-an-hour we'll have our wind."

While men, women, and children readied their sails, markers were set up and a figure-eight course plotted on a blackboard. Soon the wind grew steady and the dry-land regatta began.

These unique, three-wheeled vehicles are accelerated from a dead stop faster than a good-sized motor bike. Their average speed is better than 70. The wind governs all, of course. They usually travel two-and-a-half times wind speed.

I rode abreast of these buggies and it was quite a thrill watching the desert skippers, hands busy with sails and feet busy with the steering rails while riding on two of three wheels.

A number of the drivers are also sail-boaters, but sand sailing is deceptive and not handled in the same way. Many a seafarer has taken a lesson from the land lubber.

So don't be amazed if you spy sails on the desert. They are real, not a mirage!



Desert sailors at play.



OLDEST AND NEWEST CAPITOLS by W. Thetford LeViness



ANTA Fe, New Mexico, now has the oldest and newest capitol buildings in the United States. The structures were built 356 years

apart. The *Palacio Real* (Royal Palace), which dates from 1610, still stands on the north side of the city's plaza. It was the residence of Spanish colonial governors, appointed by the viceroy in Mexico City, till 1821. After independence from Spain, Mexico sent its own governors to live in the palace.

When the American occupation took place in 1846, the first military governors lived there, followed by a procession of Territorial chief executives. Lew Wallace, governor of New Mexico Territory in the early '80's, wrote portions of the novel *Ben Hur* while a resident there.

Since early in the century, the Old Palace, as it is now called, has been administered by the Museum of New Mexi-

co. It is a Number One tourist attraction and houses many significant archaeological exhibits.

Late in 1966, a five million dollar circular structure for legislative chambers and the governor's office was dedi-

cated not far from the original *Palacio Real*. The architecture is Middle Territorial, with portals, brick copings and four levels. Its unique design makes it as symbolic of its time as the Old Palace was in New Mexico's early days. □



New State Capitol is in center. Old Palace is at upper left.



Discovery Shows Desert Once Verdant

by Weldon Woodson



HE graceful Catalina ironwood tree with its fern-like foliage now grows naturally only on channel islands off the coast of Southern California, such as Santa Catalina. At one time, however, groves of Catalina ironwood stretched from Southern California to northeastern Washington. Dr. Virginia M. Page, paleobotanist of Stanford University, recently discovered petrified trees in Nevada's arid and desolate Fish Lake Valley which offer evidence of this.

During the early Pliocene epoch, about 11 million years ago, the Catalina ironwood flourished throughout the western Great Basin that separates the Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountain ranges. No one knows for certain what great climate change took place to cause its extinction, but most probably the advance of the continental glacier from the north and the rising Sierra Nevadas cut off the moist coastal winds. Narrow growth rings suggest a fairly dry climate, but contemporary faunal beds show that the surrounding vegetation supported a wide variety of animals such as camels, horses, dogs, cats, beavers and rhinoceros. It is interesting that the trees all fell in the same direction as if overcome by a flash flood or northwest wind. Subsequently the wood tissues became infiltrated with silica-bearing water and the process of preservation—or fossilizing—was begun.

Later, when the whole area was uplifted, soft sediments offered little resistance to the erosion, which resulted in the interesting sculptured effects that can be observed there today, together with the stumps and fragmented logs now turned to stone. Many petrified tree stumps, complete with basal roots, rest high on sandstone columns which rise 15 feet above the valley floor.

Historically, western Nevada is recognized for its silver mines and borax beds, its stagecoaches and freight trains, its desperados and vigilante committees. Its valuable mineral resources created prosperous communities, many of which, with the workings petering out, today are not even on maps. This part of Nevada is renowned also for its geological formations. Lying within the Great Basin, its metallic deposits and alkali flats, along

with its caves, extinct volcanoes, hot springs and other features, attest to catastrophic conditions in other ages.

Then, too, western Nevada is distinguished for its animal life. Their very uniqueness evokes interest. Here one finds the pronghorn antelope, the mule deer, the spotted skunk, the wandering shrew, the marmot, the pika and the cacomixle, to single out a few. Finally, western Nevada is noted for its flora, much of which embellishes other desert regions, such as the saltbush, the greasewood, the iodine weed, the samphire and the ocotillo.

Paleontological explorations in Nevada occurred as early as 1870. Found here have been mollusks and fresh-water shells, probably 25 million years old; extinct horses, cameloids, large cats and rhinoceroses; hedgehogs, bison, mammoths, mastodons and sloths. On the whole, however, field trips for fossils in Nevada have lacked orderliness. Dr. Page, with her Catalina ironwood finds, unlocked the door to a wealth of botanical possibilities.

The Catalina ironwood is one of many trees or shrubs with unusually hard, strong or heavy wood. An evergreen, it is classified as *Lyonothamnoxylon nevadensis*. The existing species, *Lyonothamnus floribundus*, family Rosaceae, thrives on Santa Catalina and adjacent islands.

Today, the Southwest abounds with a desert ironwood, *Olneya tesota*. This is a spiny, multi-branched, wide-crowned tree of the hot, sandy canyons and washes on stream-dissected alluvial fans. The young trees show some semblance of symmetry, but not so the older ones, with their blackish trunks contortioning in corkscrew fashion. Foliage is dense and evergreen. When young leaves first appear, they are relished by browsing animals, such as the burro. Later, these same creatures feed upon the seed.

The desert ironwood parades fragrant, violet-purple, wisteria-like flowers in late May or early June, along with new, dark green leaves. The seed-pods, fat and enveloping little brown seeds, mature in late summer. In early years the seeds were roasted and eaten by Indians, who prized them for their tasty, peanut-like flavor.

The Indians also relied upon the iron-

wood's heavy, hard wood for arrow points and tool handles. When thoroughly dried, the branches make high-quality firewood which endures for hours. Campers shun it, however, because of a peculiar pungent, misty stench it gives off when it burns.

Despite its solidity, the boring beetle larvae, armed with powerful jaws, can reduce smaller branches to powder in a few months. Another plague is the mistletoe, which stunts or kills its host branches and often has an adverse effect beyond the site of infection. Moreover, the growth produces grotesque, tumor-like swellings with malformations as much as three feet in diameter and weighing up to 800 pounds.

And now the desert has the Catalina ironwood, thanks to Dr. Page. To be sure, our awareness of it comes from its fossilization. Nevertheless, evidence that it flourished as far east as western Nevada stimulates the imagination to dip into the geological past. Recreating the floral and fauna splendor then, we add a new dimension to our appreciation of the desert. □

DISCOVER TREASURES, COINS, RELICS & ARTIFACTS

ONE OF AMERICA'S FASTEST GROWING SPORTS!

Easy
Budget
Terms



Outdoor Adventure that is both profitable and fun for the entire family.

THE GOLDMASTER Model S63 Metal-Mineral Detector detects Coins, Guns, Jewelry, Gold and Silver nuggets, ore deposits, mineral floats and veins...Seperates magnetic iron from non-magnetic metals....

\$16950

SEND FOR FREE

.....Two Year Guarantee.....

CATALOG

Room 121 **WHITE'S ELECTRONICS, Inc.**
1011 Pleasant Valley Rd. Sweet Home, Oregon 97386



**DESERT
BOOT**

Deerskin moccasins and moccasin boots . . . men's and women's sandals . . . Rachel Brown vestidos and capes . . . men's, women's and children's leather jackets . . . authentic Indian beaded moccasins . . . Kaibab buckskin molded sole moccasins . . . Guilmo, Minnetonka, Taos, Lazar, Bass moccasins.

Western Footwear

The MOCCASIN SHOP



**THE
SPORTSMAN**

WRITE FOR FREE BROCHURE

THE MOCCASIN SHOP, 174 North Palm Canyon Drive
Palm Springs, Calif. 92262

AC 714 325-6425



it RAISES ... it LOWERS ... it's HYDRAULIC

The unique hydraulic mechanism which raises the camper top can be safely operated even by a small child. Locks prevent accidental lowering. The top is lowered quickly by the simple turn of a valve. Drive safely at any speed with minimum drag and sway. Sit or recline on comfortable couches while traveling with top down. Alaskan camper top raises in sec-

onds. Enjoy roomy walk-in living quarters, weather tight, high ceiling, "home away from home," complete with three-burner stove, sink, cabinets, ice box, beds and many other luxury features.

6 FACTORIES TO SERVE YOU

Write today to the factory nearest you for free folder describing the most advanced camper on the road.

R. D. HALL MFG., INC., 9847 Glenoaks Blvd., Sun Valley (San Fernando Valley) California 91352, Dept. D.

ALASKAN CAMPERS NORTHWEST, INC., 6410 South 143rd Street, (Tukwila), Seattle Wash. 98168, Dept. D.

ALASKAN CAMPER SALES, INC., (S.F.-Sacramento area) Intersection of Interstate Highway 80 and State 21, Route 1, Box 332, Suisun City, California 94585, Dept. D.

PENNECAMP, INC., 401 W. End Ave., Manheim, Penna., 17545, Dept. 4.

G. R. Grubbs Manufacturing, Inc. d/b/a

ALASKAN CAMPER SALES, 5761 Cullen Blvd., Houston, Texas 77021, Dept. D

FORT LUPTON CAMPERS, INC., 1100 Denver Ave., Fort Lupton, Colorado 80621, Dept. D.

U. S. PATENT NO. 2879103

CANADIAN PATENT NO. 637-547



I no longer have . . . Rocks In My Head!

by JACK SHEPPARD



OR years I have been tramping over the desert picking up one pretty rock after another and carting them home.

Finally it got to the point where there was no room in the garage for either my car or more rocks. When I started bringing them into the house my wife rebelled.

Being a very diplomatic woman she did not say either the rocks go or she goes home to mother. Instead she called a friend who belongs to the local rockhound club. After serving Dexter Woods an excellent dinner and mellowing us with vino, she sweetly suggested I show him "your excellent rock collection."

Modestly protesting that I was only an amateur, but with inward visions of Dexter heaping me with praise for my collection, I took him out to the garage. We had some difficulty getting in since the lawn mower and other garden tools

ordinarily housed in the garage had been temporarily placed outside the entrance door.

Dexter took more than a half hour to gradually go through the collection, sampling one piece after another, as I waited and watched for a sign of approval. None came. After inspecting the final rock, he smiled and suggested I build a bird bath with my collection.

That night I told my wife that Dexter had rocks in his head, but the next day I joined his Shadow Mountain Rock and Mineral Society.

Today I not only have a pretty rock bird bath but I also have some excellent semi-precious stones neatly piled on shelves in the garage which also once again houses the car and the garden tools.

I am still just an amateur collector, but at least I know what I am looking for and where to go because I follow the leader. The leader is always an exper-



iened rockhound from the club who has spent several days, preceding our weekend collecting trips, going into an area and scouting the best places to find agate, Apache tears or other semi-precious stone.

A typical trip was our recent excursion into the Old Dad and Providence Mountains in California's San Bernardino County. Prior to our weekend jaunt, Harold Haskell, trip chairman, spent three days locating the best areas for the members to visit. We met and made camp Friday night on a gravel road ten miles north of Amboy.

Eleven vehicles carrying people from the ages of six years to 65 were ready to roll at daybreak the next day. Before the convoy started, Haskell explained where we were going and what we expected to find. Heading north we traveled through washes with picturesque sandstone formations and abounding in smoke trees and bleached wood worn into fantastic



Tom Stonick, of Palm Springs, is a happy young rockhound as he holds a giant piece of seam agate.



Using all types of vehicles, members of the Shadow Mountain Rock & Mineral Society, Palm Desert, Calif., leave camp for a successful rock hunting trip.

shapes by flash floods.

During a brief stop for lunch, the members showed each other pieces of their individual collections, which they had cut into bolo ties, rings and other display pieces.

"You know, the people who are always looking for gold or lost mines love the desert like we do," Dexter said as he put a piece of exotic driftwood in his vehicle. "But if they have only one goal in mind and are blinded by gold they are missing a great deal of what the desert has to offer.

"If they would broaden their vision by learning how to recognize semi-precious stones they could still look for gold and at the same time find new adventures and enjoyment in discovering nature's other rocks and minerals."

We didn't find gold that weekend. Maybe we even walked over some veins without knowing it. Instead, we returned to camp in vehicles loaded with Apache tears, all kinds of beautiful agate, chalcedony, red and scenic jasper, opal and obsidian. And we only scratched the surface.

I still have an empty space on my shelf in the garage for the gold I may some day find, but in the meantime I have discovered a new world of semi-precious stones. If you want to find that world, don't load your garage with pretty rocks—instead, just follow the leader. □



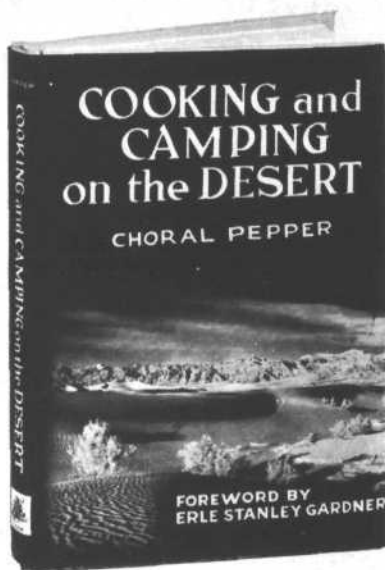
Checking rock specimens are Mary Flagle and George and Alma Stevens, of La Quinta, California. Rock collecting is enjoyed by people of all ages.



Dexter Woods and Harold Haskell, right, check pieces of bacon agate which they cut after recent rock collecting trip.



Charles and Elsie Wilder, of Antwerp, New York, display Apache Tears found near Amboy. The eastern couple spend their winters at Quartzite, Arizona and their time collecting and cutting semi-precious stones.



by Choral Pepper
with a chapter on
**Driving and Surviving
on the Desert**
by Jack Pepper

"Cooking and Camping on the Desert" is more than just a book on preparing for a desert outing or making meals that will appeal while in camp. This book is a brief manual on how to survive in the desert . . . the book is a must for anyone making a trip to the desert, whether it is his first or fiftieth. **BILL HILTON, Santa Barbara News-Press.**

ONLY \$3.95

Plus 25 cents mailing charges. California addresses add 20 cents tax. Send check or money order to Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. 92260

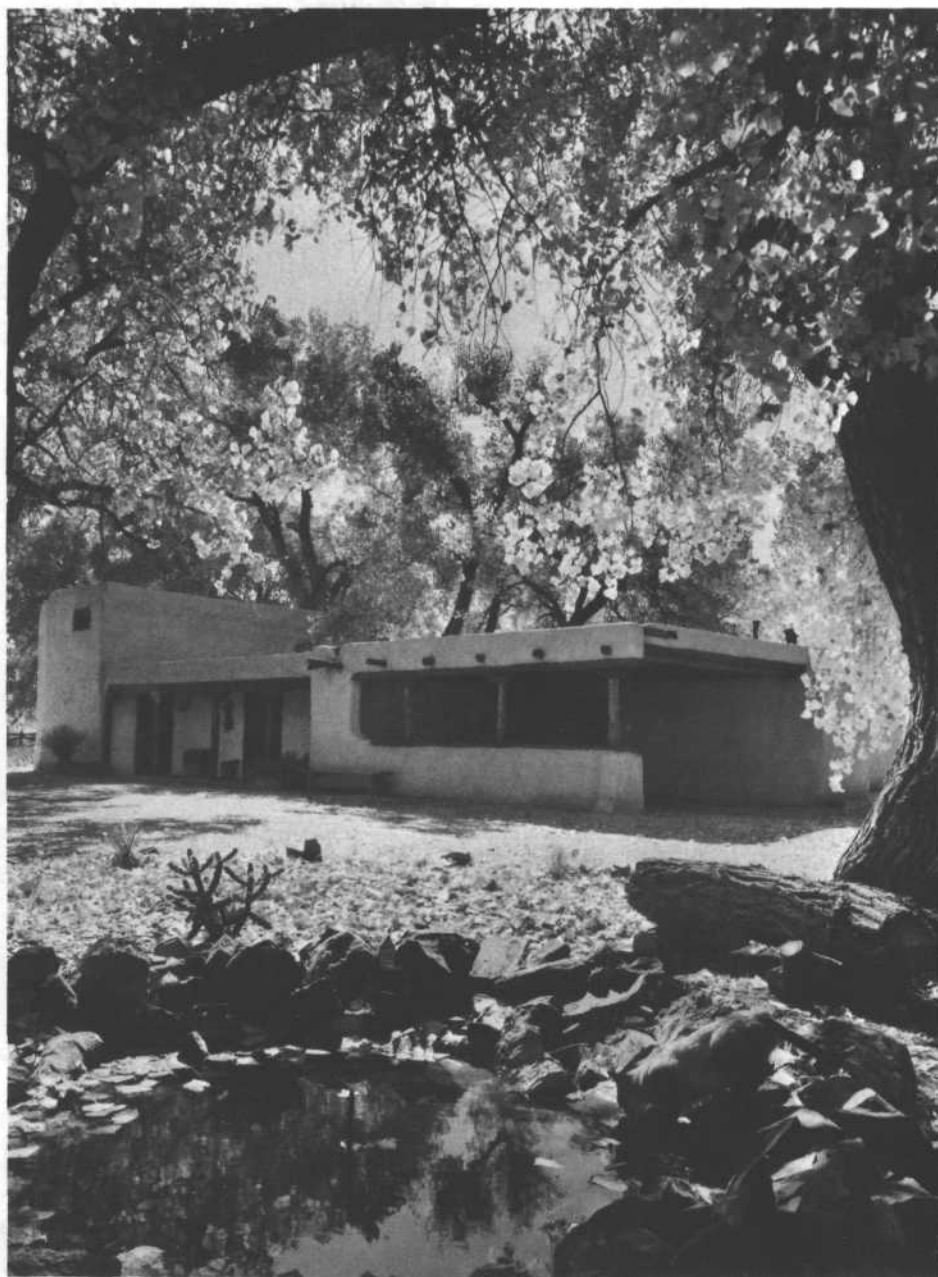
AUTOGRAPHED COPIES ON REQUEST

PLEASE ZIP!

Desert Magazine and Uncle Sam can handle your orders a day faster if you will include your zip code in ALL correspondence. And when MOVING please inform us as soon as possible and include both OLD and NEW ZIP CODES.

Adobe Renaissance

by Donald Foster



No matter how humble or grandiose or how varied in style, the desert homes of our first Americans — be they Pueblo Indians, Spanish Indians, Spanish Conquistadores, or

frontier settlers—had at least one aspect in common. All were constructed of mud bricks, *adobe*.

Centuries before Coronado and his followers journeyed up the Rio Grande in search of the fabled seven cities of gold, Indians of the Southwest were con-

structing two, three and four story apartments of mud and stone in what we now call pueblo style architecture. With the arrival of the Conquistadores came the Spanish influence and the picturesque *adobe hacienda*. Still later, settlers from the East blended their New England heritage with adobe building practices to evolve the Territorial adobe.

All were functional, artistic homes fulfilling the needs of the inhabitants. Each reflected the owner's heritage and the environment from which it grew. Unfortunately, however, over the centuries modern technology gradually displaced adobe construction skills until, by mid-20th century, the only remaining vestiges of this noble building art were to be seen on Indian reservations, in a few renovated haciendas, and in an occasional do-it-yourself project.

Times have indeed changed. Southwestern home builders are once again giving this ancient style of construction the serious consideration it has so long deserved.

Modern adobes now range from custom built homes designed to the owner's specifications to economy tract houses. All architectural styles are represented, from contemporary ranch to ancient pueblo. Like their brick and wooden counterparts, these mud brick dwellings are located on small city lots as well as on a large country acreage.

The adobe revolution, while basically a desert phenomenon, is, nonetheless, symptomatic of a world-wide renaissance. Architects in all parts of the world are returning to styles deeply rooted in the soils of their respective environments.

A particularly fervent leader in today's return to traditional architecture is the internationally known Constantino Doxiados. "I came to the conclusion that I had no right to be different where the conditions themselves compelled me to remain the same," says the Greek-born architect. "We should not be afraid to express ourselves in the same way and repeat something that is good. After all, the doctor is not afraid to prescribe a medicine simply because it has been used before."

In the deserts of the Southwest, as in other parts of the world, it is no longer new and unusual solutions that architects and builders are seeking but *right* solutions, even if these solutions lead back to tradition.

For instance, the traditional concept of the flat roofed adobe which grows and expands with the changing family size and income is now being viewed as a solution to a new consumer need. An interest in the requirements of all income groups, coupled with soaring construction costs, has caused builders to seek a type of dwelling which can begin as a small nucleus and continue to grow over the years and even generations. In the Southwest, the adobe home, which employs local and easily obtainable materials, a home in which doors and windows can be opened and rooms added, best answers this need.

Timeless adobe lends itself to interior design in almost any period and style. All styles are adaptable to adobe walls: contemporary, early American, provincial, and especially the Mediterranean style so popular today.

Because of its unpretentiousness and its basic artistic makeup, the adobe home easily reflects the individuality of its owner. The white, hand molded walls may be left plain or may be adorned

with paintings, prints, Indian rugs, or wall hangings, according to personal tastes. Corner fireplaces can be constructed and wall niches and book cases are easily cut into the walls, completely remaking a room to reflect the owner's personality.

Architecture, more than any other art, belongs to the place and must be conditioned by it. Environmental and climatic needs combined with the traditional use of local building materials will always result in an honest, practical and artistic creation. Being simply a mixture of mud and straw, many attempts have been made to improve adobe through the introduction of various additives. All have failed. Adobe remains the most natural and logical building material for the desert.

Realizing this fact, a new breed of builders and architects have taken a bold backward step toward tradition. Once again, adobe houses are literally rising from the earth in mud bricks on the very ground where, generations ago, arose the dwellings of our desert ancestors. □



"HAROLD GLASCOT, YOU'RE JUST TOO MUCH!"

The Gold Under Red Bluff

by Harrison Doyle



HE years are fast piling up on me. In fact, they are weighing me down until I'm as thin as a sour dough tortilla.

It will soon be too late—and no one knows it better than I—to lucidly and accurately pass along the old treasure story that was told me by my Grandmother Sweetman.

I am the only one of the half dozen grandchildren of Elizabeth Jane Sweetman (nee Trueblood) still living, who has done any research whatever on the "Trueblood Treasure," but because of the advancing years, to prove, or find it at this late date may now be beyond my reach, so I am passing the story along to anyone who wishes to make the try.

I have often wondered why I just didn't drop everything and have a go at it years ago, but reasons kept cropping up to prevent it. Perhaps I have kept the information to myself all these years, hoping some new gadget would be invented that would pinpoint gold alone, feeling that without such an instrument, it would be useless to try to find this 100-year-old gold cache, especially where a fair-sized city may have arisen over the once-wooded hiding place of the fabulous hoard. Now it is possible a myriad of pipes and other underground metallic objects would complicate the search.

At any rate, the lost hoard consists of somewhere between 100 and 200 fifty dollar gold pieces, many of which were octagon-shaped, a few, of course, round. They were buried or hidden, probably underground, on my great-grandfather's farm on the outskirts of the village of Red Bluff in Tehama County, California, during Civil War times.

If the hoard is still intact, it probably has in it individual gold pieces worth now from \$2000 to \$10,000 each. As a whole, it would be worth upwards of \$400,000 proportionately to the distribution of dates and types of the rare coins it contains.

Here is the story as told me as a child by my grandmother, Elizabeth Jane Sweetman:

"We came across the Oregon Trail in 1852," she said, "when I was 15. We came right after the Donner Party and went by Mountain Meadows.

"My father was John Ellison Trueblood. We were from Indiana, by way of Illinois and Independence, Missouri. I walked most of the way, because those old wagons had no springs and they jounced your insides to jelly when you tried to ride.

"After several months of Indian scares, mud, flies and mosquitoes, we finally got into Eastern Oregon, where our party turned off and went down to Scott's Valley, in Northern California.

"After a short stay in Scott's Valley, we went to Redding, where father took up a piece of land. A little later he sold this. With money he had brought from home and with what he got from the sale, we went down to Red Bluff where he took up 160 acres. It was on one corner of this that he met his death, and the railroad station at Red Bluff was built there some years later.

"In those days the nearest bank was in San Francisco, so father, like other men of substantial means, buried his money in an old iron pot with a lid on it. He bought and traded land, cattle and horses, and did quite a business with outfits going to the mines.

"Quite often I saw him go out in the woods back of the barn and bring in the pot, put it on the kitchen table, and count money into or out of it. Most of the coins he stacked up were the larger, \$50 pieces. Once he said, as he toted the old pot out the kitchen door, 'I'll bet this thing weighs over 50 pounds!'

"When he went into the barn, or through it and out into the woods behind with the pot, he was never gone more than 15 minutes. We never watched him, because he had a real bad temper and he would just as soon slap you as

not. Like all kids would, I looked all over the woods behind the barn, but never saw any place where there had been digging. I believe he had it in or around the barn or stables.

"When I was just under 17," she continued, "I met Charles H. Sweetman, a mining scout and assayer. He had invented an ore roasting furnace widely used around the mines, and for a young man, was pretty well fixed. He was scouting a mine up our way for a large concern in San Francisco.

"Charles was a Secesh, from Tennessee, and father hated him like poison because of it. They had a big row, and father started after him with his muzzle-loading shotgun, yelling that if he ever came around again he would fill him full of buckshot.

"A short time later, I eloped with Charles, and we went to Ft. Jones, at the foot of Mt. Shasta, where your mother was born. Captain Jack's Modoc Squaw was her nurse.

"I heard once in a while from my half-sister, who told me that father would not allow my name mentioned; and that he had 'disinherited' me.

"The years went by. Charles and I went to Petaluma, then on down to the San Gabriel Placers east of Los Angeles. We were there when the news came that father had been killed trying to stop the railroad from going over his land.

"It seems the railroad company had started laying tracks across his land without any warning, and he took the shotgun out to run the Chinese tracklayers off. There was a terrible fight. He killed several of the Chinese before the balance of them killed him with picks and shovels.

"My sister wrote that they had searched high and dry for the hidden gold, but hadn't found it. Only the day before he was killed he had sold a large piece of land and had put more money in the pot."

So ended the first part of Grand-

mother's story about the lost gold.

About 1893 we lived in Los Angeles, on San Julian Street, and while there were visited by my "Aunt Thenia Brooks," of Chico, California. I can't remember just what relation she was to Grandmother, but believe her to have been a daughter of my Grandmother's half-sister. At any rate, Aunt Thenia had been a child in the Trueblood home in Red Bluff and she knew all about the story of the lost gold. She had two boys about my age, around four or five, and the boys and I played in the back yard making mud pies.

Evenings the folks would sit in the parlor while Aunt Thenia played the organ and sang some of the old Gospel songs. She was fond of one in particular, "Flee as a bird—." After the singing, and a ghost story or two, the talk would invariably turn to the lost gold. Thenia insisted that it amounted to at least \$10,000. She said she just might go back there and look for it herself.

Ten thousand dollars was a lot of money in those days, but the years, with inflation and the scarcity of such coins now, would make those in the old iron pot worth upwards of \$300,000 to \$400,000. Some of the pieces could be worth a fortune alone.

The reason I have never gone up there to search for it is a simple one. In the old days there were no such things as today's modern electronic treasure finders and a lot of people have undoubtedly honey-combed the ground there over the years. Another reason, the town had possibly grown over the old farm lands and someone in the course of building a cellar or grading a street might have uncovered it years ago.

Then again, by waiting, there was always the chance that some instrument *would* be invented that would pinpoint gold alone. Anyway, the years have flown, and I am far too busy and too far toward the Sunset to go skyshooting now. But if some younger man cares to try for it, there is a chance he might find it.

One thing is sure: this lost treasure is certainly an authentic one—as near to being authentic as they come. The area should be on the maps and it shouldn't be too hard to find some record of the killing around the date the railroad was built into Red Bluff. The Title Company there should have information pertinent

to the case. I would place the killing at right after the end of the Civil War.

The grand old lady, my grandmother, lived to be 96 and died in Los Angeles when I was a young man. I talked to her many times about the treasure and her story never varied. She was sure it was still there.

With all the changes the years have made in and around Red Bluff, it may or may not be. A hundred years is a

long time. I've been through Red Bluff a few times and the way it has built up changed my mind about spending a month or two there looking for what might be a needle in a haystack. But good luck to anyone who would like to make the try.

If anyone does uncover it, please remember me with just one of those old \$50 octagon slugs! □

THE OCELOT NEW!

A new concept in Dune Buggy design & styling.



The "Ocelot"

THE BRUSH BUGGY

New design, 20 sq. ft. pick-up bed, hard or soft top avail. utilizes VW or Corvair engine.

Send \$1.00 for brochure price list and info. on speed and power equipment for VW engines, Ocelot and Brush Buggy.

SAND CHARIOTS

505 E. Walnut, Dept. H
Fullerton, Calif. 92632

**Lowest Photo Print Prices
Highest Quality**

**KODACOLOR FILM
DEVELOPED & PRINTED**

8 Jumbo Prints	\$1.78
12 Jumbo Prints	\$2.42
12 Jumbo Prints and New Roll of Kodacolor (except 126)	\$3.30
12 Jumbo Prints and New Roll of Kodacolor 126	\$3.50
Kodacolor Neg reprints16



Send for price sheets
and envelopes
All other
Photo prices are
comparably low

MARKET BASKET PHOTO CO.
P. O. Box 370, Yuma, Arizona 85364 or
P. O. Box 2830, San Diego, Calif. 92112

EASY FUN — EASY TOW



A Fireball travel trailer is a take-along home, built for families that want to spend their weekends and vacations adventuring. It is designed for easy living, no matter what the location. You can travel off the beaten path and still enjoy all the comforts of home — ice cubes, hot showers and comfortable beds. A Fireball trailer follows your car like a shadow and it is carefully constructed of top quality materials to provide many years of carefree use.



**FIREBALL
TRAILER MFG., INC.**

12087 N. LOPEZ CANYON RD.
SAN FERNANDO, CALIF.
PHONE: 899-2546 Area Code 213

Please send brochure to:

Dept. DT

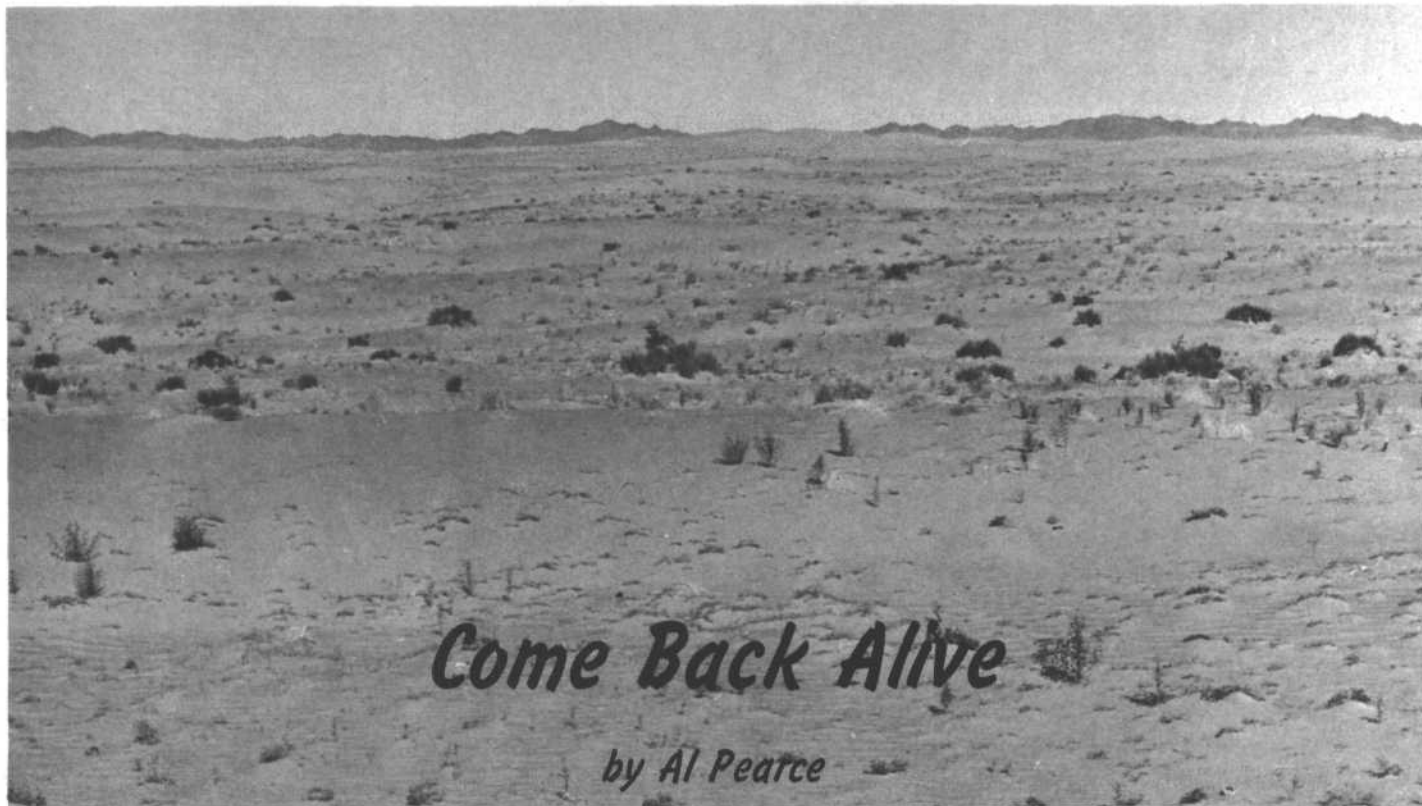
Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____



Come Back Alive

by Al Pearce

What would you do if you were stalled in an area like this?



HIS article has only one purpose—to help keep you alive. Survival specialists have a long list of persons who have died needlessly on the desert; persons who thought that just because they spent many weekends playing beneath a burning sun they didn't have any problems.

Two years ago, a man died a scant 100 yards from water; he was a desert prospector. Last summer, two women were found dead about one mile from their automobile; they, too, had spent "lots of time on the desert." About four years ago, a man was found dead with a half canteen of water lying by his side. Why? Because he, like nearly everyone else, thought that preserving water would preserve his life.

This is not true.

And that is the thesis of this article. There are too many fallacies that need correcting. Too many persons have died because of popular beliefs, formulated by some outdated movie or by fiction writers who didn't have the faintest idea what they were talking about.

For example, you may as well be completely without water as to sip it gradually. Trying to preserve it as long as pos-

sible does your body no good whatsoever. To illustrate the truth of this theory, pour a quart of water into a pan and bring it to a boil. After it is boiling, add a few drops of water frequently. You'll notice that it makes little difference in the evaporation process. Pour in a half of a canteen full, however, and the boiling an devaporation process is immediately retarded; therefore, appreciably lengthening the time it would take the pan to boil dry.

The body is much like the pan of water; death comes when the water has boiled away. The difference is not, as people have believed for years, in how you can stretch your water, but, rather, in how wisely you use it.

Think of your body as an automobile and of water as the gasoline it takes to keep the motor running. So many gallons are good for so many miles. The same maxim is true regarding the body; so much water is good for so many miles.

If you remember nothing else, this one thing will contribute more to saving your life than anything else. "Your body is like an automobile. When it is running, it burns much more fuel than when it is only idling."

According to Naval experts, if you start walking in daytime heat, your body

is good for about 10 miles for every gallon of water you drink. If you walk at night, the same gallon will take you 20 miles. With no walking at all, one gallon of water will keep you alive for about two days, assuming that the body is in average physical condition.

What all this boils down to, is *don't walk unless you know where you are going and unless you know you have enough water to make it.*

Let's say, for example, that you became stranded in the middle of the area shown in the above photo. If you know which direction to walk towards safety you'll need at least two gallons of water to mawe it. The odds of guessing the right direction to safety is about three to ten. If you have two gallons of water and are absolutely sure of your directions, you have no problem. But if you don't have two gallons of water and you are not sure of your directions—you're dead if you start walking.

The next logical question is, of course, "What if I don't have enough water and what if I don't know which direction to travel?"

This one question brings home the importance of always telling someone where you plan to go and what time you expect to be back. That's the reason all

airlines travel on flight plans. They are due at such and such a place at a given time and if they are not, search parties are immediately organized.

You're a lot easier to find if someone knows where you are. And this brings up another important fact to always remember: an automobile, a tent, a big "X" in the sand is a lot easier to spot from the air than is a body lying in the shade of a small mesquite.

Let's examine the problem as seen by Naval survival experts. Instead of an airplane crash, however, let's say that you were having one heck of a good time. You're chasing butterflies or something else.

A couple of hours pass happily and suddenly you decide it's time to go back to where you started. You look about you and become shocked by the knowledge that you don't know where you are, much less the direction of your starting point.

You look around you and see nothing but a few desert plants, a few rocks and a whole bunch of sand. The sun is a bright yellow and it's beating on your forehead with all the fury at its command. Off in the distance, you can see a myriad of heat waves bouncing off the desert floor.

At this very moment, you'll begin to make a decision that will either kill you or save your life. The thinking process gets all loused up by panic and you're subject to do a million and one things that simple logic would vote against.

The thing to do is sit down, light a cigarette and relax, momentarily forgetting your predicament. If you're worried about cigarette causing cancer — good. Think about this for awhile. It is the least of your problems at this particular moment and if it will keep your mind occupied, so much the better—I might add that I've never heard of anyone dying of cancer while perishing from thirst. This doesn't mean it has never happened, but no one has ever complained.

The point is: *Get your mind off your problem* until you're sure you can analyze it rationally.

Think of the pan of water, think of the automobile and then inventory your "fuel" supply. Chances are you have only one canteen and this is not enough to take you more than a couple of miles.

the big DATSUN difference

Pick up a camper and go! In a class by itself, the Datsun 1/2 Ton Pickup will carry 2,000 lbs., yet it operates at savings up to 50%! Makes a great "get away machine" with one of the many camper tops available. Datsun delivers terrific truck value: full synchromesh 4 speed, whitewalls, heater and defroster, vinyl interior, foam cushioned seats...and more! Drive a Datsun...then decide. Parts & service coast to coast.

new fun finder costs 50% less!

A real pickup for your pocketbook at \$1766 del., plus license, tax, D&H, local freight, if any.



\$ TREASURE HUNTING \$ PROVES TO BE LUCRATIVE HOBBY!



Ernest J. Clark writes: "In three weeks since I received my Gardiner Model 190A Metal Detector, I have found a total of approximately \$685 worth of miscellaneous coins, jewelry and artifacts. Some of the coins dated back to 1802. I think the features of this metal detector are really way ahead of all the other makes, especially in the fact that it will distinguish bottle caps and other worthless items."

Free catalog of our patented metal detectors gives comparison tests of different makes.

GARDINER ELECTRONICS

Dept. 51 4729 N. 7th Avenue • Phoenix, Arizona 85013



RENT

A NEW COMMANDER 720
GOLDAK
METAL LOCATOR

by

DAY • WEEKEND • OR LONGER

LOW COST
NO DEPOSIT

RENTAL CAN APPLY
TO PURCHASE PRICE
Only \$149.50

\$16.00 down \$16.00 month
Your **BANKAMERICARD** Welcome

STAR
SALES

5426 RESEDA BLVD., TARZANA, CALIF.

When in Palm Springs rentals can be obtained
at the Sun & Sands, 568 Warm Sands Drive,
Palm Springs 714/327-8112

CALL **343-2550** DAY/
(213) NIGHT

Hours — Daily 10:30-9 p.m. — Sunday 12-9 p.m.

If your water supply is limited, you'd better start thinking of other means of survival. The canteen of water, plus the water you have in your body is good for about two days if you remain calm, collected and do not waste yourself.

This means simply that you have a minimum of two days for someone to find you. This compares to only a couple of hours if you grow impatient and set out to find someone.

Now that this has been settled, take a look around you. Find a shady spot, off the desert sand if possible. It can be as much as 30 degrees cooler one foot off the ground.

Inventory the plants around you. Many of these contain moisture. Stay in the shade until the sun begins to set and then start cutting into these plants until you find one that has more moisture than the others. If they give off a milky, oozy substance, don't, under any circumstances, make use of them. Move on to other plants.

If you find a good plant, and there are quite a few on the desert, fill your canteen and drink all the water you can hold. Then, gather as much of the plants as possible for two signal fires. One for tonight and one for tomorrow afternoon if you are still not rescued.

When darkness sets in, you may as well try to get some sleep. This should not be too difficult, knowing that by now someone is looking for you. At least they should be, if you told them where you were going and when you expected to return.

If you still haven't been found the next morning, you should start drinking water as you need it, remembering that the only way to conserve it is to control your sweating.

Do not remove any clothing. Clothing helps to control sweating by not letting perspiration evaporate so fast. Do not lie on the ground, even in the shade. If possible, sit a few inches above the ground. If you have to move, move slowly. An Arabian does not survive on the desert, he lives there and you never see him get in a great big hurry. Some people think he might be lazy, but he isn't. He is living the way the desert makes him live.

By following the above advice, all you're doing is staying alive until some-

one finds you. This is really all you can do under the circumstances. By noon, if you still haven't been found, your problems are beginning to multiply by leaps and bounds and your chances of surviving are being reduced dangerously.

But, still, the one basic factor must prevail. How far can you get on the water you have. Just like the automobile, you are not going a foot further than you have "fuel" to take you.

Obviously, however, if you haven't been found by this time, you strayed further than you thought and finding you isn't going to be easy. So, with the idea in mind that your water is the most precious possession you have, think carefully before making your next move.

You can light your second signal fire with a minimum of effort. There is not much need to do this before noon unless you have a lot of fuel and like to watch fires. Search parties are sometimes painfully slow in organizing and chances are authorities were not called until late the evening before. When the sun came up, they were only beginning to prepare for the search.

By noon they should be close enough to see smoke from a fire. But, remember, if you are not immediately found, you still have approximately 24 hours—assuming you found no water-bearing plants—so don't panic. If you found water in plants, your only problem is hunger and you can go several days without food. In fact, if you're like a lot of us, it might be good for you.

I have been on numerous search parties conducted by Southern California Sheriff's Departments and experience tells me that the person who stays put when he realizes he is lost is usually found within 48 hours. Rescue units are usually quite proficient. The person who dies, is the person who decides to walk out and starts off in the wrong direction. This only puts him further and further away from rescue. I've also gone through the Naval Survival School at Warner Hot Springs and, believe me, these people have survival down to a science. And, they, too, caution against trying to walk very far on the desert.

Let's take another common situation: You run out of gas or get stuck on a lonely abandoned road. Basically, the situation has not changed one iota, except that a large automobile is larger to

spot than a small person.

Several persons have died because of the mistake of trying to dig out a car stuck in the sand, and not having enough water to keep the body from dehydrating. The same warnings hold true here. "You have to have water if you're going to move."

Don't drink radiator water. If your situation becomes desperate, you might pour this water on your clothing to retard the evaporation process, but don't drink it under any circumstances. *Don't*



Flash storms in the desert can be dangerously wild.

drink urine either, it is just like saltwater.

If you're only stuck, you can attempt to dig your way out after dark when it is cooler. If you're out of gas, relax. In either case, it won't hurt to leave your lights on. They can be spotted from a distance.

Now a few words about finding water. In many parts of the desert water can be found only a few feet beneath the surface. Always dig on the concave side of a stream bed. This is where most of the water flows. If it's a dry lake, dig near the center, this was probably the last

part to dry up. Do not waste your energy by digging more than three or four feet. If you haven't found moisture in this distance, the odds are that you won't.

As I've already mentioned, nearly all desert plants have some degree of moisture. The roots are usually the best bet in the average plant. Cacti holds water in its prickly arms.

Next to a water shortage, the sun is your most dangerous enemy. It can kill you a lot quicker than you may suspect, or, at least, render you helpless. The sun can cause three types of heat collapse:

Heat Cramps. You become flushed, sweat profusely and get cramps in your legs or stomach muscles. If you're alone, take all the water you have and find a shady spot if at all possible. Take salt if you have it.

Heat Exhaustion. Symptoms are much the same as in heat cramps, except that the skin becomes cold to the touch. The person may even shiver. To combat this, lie flat on your back, cover up as much as possible and again, take salt if available.

Heat Stroke. This, of course, is the deadliest. Heat stroke can come on suddenly with little, if any, warning. All sweating stops, there is severe headache and pulse starts beating fast and strong. *Unconsciousness may result.*

When stricken with heat stroke, there is little you can do for yourself. If possible, lie down flat on your back off the ground in the shade. If you have plenty of water—and you should have or else you shouldn't have been walking in the sun in the first place—pour it on your clothing. Do not take stimulants.

According to the Navy, the above advice has saved the lives of hundreds of service men. The failure to follow this advice has cost many lives.

In closing one of the lectures at the survival school, a commander had this to say, "If you're lost, just think of it as an unplanned leave, a holiday, and remember always that those stupid bosses you've always complained about are not now trying to tell you what to do. You are on your own."

If this is not enough to make you happy, think about the weight you are losing and how much fun it will be to put it back on as soon as you are rescued.

FROM GOLDAK TO RICHES!

with the All New
'COMMANDER' 720



Treasure Locator!



The 'Commander' 720 unsurpassed for locating buried treasure, coins, Civil War relics and for beach-combing, features the "Tell-Tone" Signal. Locates any metal object under dirt, sand, mud, rock, etc. No cumbersome cords — completely transistorized, battery powered.

EFFECTIVE DEPTH RANGE (Under Normal Conditions)

3"	Bullet
7"	Penny
8-12"	Silver Dollar
18"	Pistol
24"	Jar of Coins
30"	Kettle
36"	Placer Gold Deposit
48"	Metal Chest
60"	Large Metallic Object



GOLDAK

Using Electronic Methods Since 1933

THE GOLDAK COMPANY, INC.
1101A Air Way Avenue
Glendale, Calif. 91201

Gentlemen: Please send free literature on Goldak treasure locators.

☐ I enclose \$1.00 for my American Treasure Hunters' Guide (reg. \$2.00 value).

Name

Address

City

State Zip Code

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

by William Thornton



LOMBSTONE, Charleston, Galeyville — names almost certain to bring to mind the colorful days of the wild West!

The fascinating history of Arizona has left a rich heritage on its maps, names which tell us much about the activities and the people of its earliest days.

What's in a name? To answer this question we must travel back in time and attempt to see the land through the eyes of the people who made Arizona history.

Indians were the first residents of Arizona, and the first to name places within the state. As a group, the Indian place names are the oldest. Most of them have their origins in a period before the coming of the white man. Arizona Indians gave names to places that were important to them, such as water holes, villages, mountain peaks and other geographic features.

Although several tribes named places in Arizona, nearly all of the Indian names have one feature in common; they describe their locality. Typical examples are the Navajo Keet Seel and the Papago Gu Vo. Keet Seel means empty houses and is the Navajo name for a cliff dwelling that is now preserved in the Navajo National Monument. Gu Vo is a Papago name meaning big pond, indicating that this village has a large pond which may fill with water in the rainy season. Indian place names may tell us something about a conspicuous geographic feature, like the Papago Ahe Vonam, a mountain that looks like a hat from either end. They may tell us something about plant life or animal life, like the Hopi name Shungopovi which indicates a place where a certain type of grass or reed was abundant, or the Papago Pan Tak, a watering spot for coyotes.

The Indian names were practical ones and did not imply what the Indians considered the worth of the place named. Their names were objective and made no

judgments about the value of the land. Nor did they name places in honor of people. Arizona Indians did not honor a single one of their chiefs. To be sure, several places in Arizona are named for Indian chiefs—the town and county of Cochise, named for the famous chief of the Chiricahua Apaches, and Massai Point named for the last surviving member of the Chiricahua tribe—but these names were applied by the white man and not by the Indians. Today original Indian names are common in only two parts of the state—one in the south-central part, the other in the northeastern part, both areas contained in Indian reservations.

With the entry of Spanish explorers and missionaries in 1539, a new era of Arizona place names arose. Santa Cruz and Agua Dulce serve as reminders that Arizona was once Spanish territory. Often Spanish names were descriptive. Rio Colorado, literally red river, was first given by the explorer Onate to the Little Colorado River in 1604 and in 1699 given by Father Kino to the larger river. More popular, however, were honorary

names; that is, names honoring persons, places or events.

It was common practice for a Spanish exploring party to name a place in honor of the Roman Catholic saint whose day it was when the party arrived at that place. Such names actually served a two-fold purpose, they honored the saints and served to record the fact that a certain person was in a particular place on a particular day. Missions were named for the saint on whose day the mission was begun.

Some names that are now Spanish are actually Indian names changed or transliterated into Spanish. Often times such a name takes on an entirely different meaning through this process. An interesting example is Ajo. The original Papago name for this place was *au-aubo*, meaning paint, indicating that the Indians found rocks in the area from which they made paint. Mexicans in the area pronounced the name without the double pronunciation of the *au*, resulting in a name sounding like Ajo. This, along with the coincidental fact that the ajo, wild garlic or lily, grows abundantly



Keet Seel was named by the Navajos to describe its empty houses.

in the area led to the common belief that the place was named for wild lilies.

English place names are the most recent in origin and are the most abundant and widespread. Many are descriptive, such as Camelback Mountain near Phoenix, but the majority are either honorary or possessive. Some English descriptive names are direct translations of Indian names. Red Rock in Apache county is *Tse ichii dah ajkani* in Navajo. Settlements were most frequently named for the founder or for someone else who figured prominently in the early life of the settlement. An example is Spring-

Early post offices were commonly associated with general stores, as merchants wanted it to help attract customers. Such post offices often were named for the postmaster or the proprietor of the general store. Proposed names for post offices were sometimes rejected by authorities, however. In such cases the applicant was forced to select another name, or the postal authorities arbitrarily substituted one. The town of Casabel provides an interesting example of a name that was changed in this manner. Alex Herron had a ranch and store there and wished to establish a post office. He proposed to name it Pool, after Joseph

determine the origins of some place names in Arizona.

Always names are not what they appear to be. The name Snowflake, for example, would appear to give a rough description of winter conditions in the area, but the name was actually given to honor Erastus Snow and William J. Flake, co-founders of the community.

In Arizona's recent history a profit motive has influenced the naming of places. A rapid spread of real estate developments since the end of World War II has resulted in a whole series of new names, usually selected to attract customers. Indeed, a real estate developer would never name his development Tombstone or Death Valley! Often an emphasis is placed on the topographical elevation of the new developments — Shadow Mountain and Suffolk Hills from the vicinity of Tucson, for example. Such names are thought to suggest social elevation.

Some of these new names will probably become permanent, others will fade from the scene as have so many in the past.

English descriptive names often give us an idea of the way in which the namers viewed the land. Some names indicate favorable conditions—Paradise in Cochise county—others indicate a harsh environment—Hell Canyon in Yavapai county. Indian descriptive names did not do this; they often described a notable feature, but made no judgment as to the value of the place.

It is interesting to note that the term desert, used to describe areas in Arizona such as the Yuma desert, Painted desert, Sonoran desert and Mojave desert, seems to be taking on a new meaning. As originally applied, it suggested a harsh, hostile place where travel was difficult; a place to be avoided. But soon the healthful properties of clear, dry air were discovered and it was realized that the desert isn't all bad. Today the Southwestern desert resorts are celebrated and many people even choose to live in them the year 'round.

The names on the Arizona landscape will continue to change as Arizona's population grows and changes. New names will appear and old names will fade. Place names will always fascinate travelers who like to delve into what went on in the past to develop a state. □



In its early days, Tombstone seemed a lively name for a town. Today it would be considered deadly!

ville in Apache county, named for Harry Springer who had operated a store near the site of the present town. Arizona also has places named honoring presidents, such as Coolidge and Roosevelt Lake. The desire to preserve a person's name by naming a place for him seems to have been strong among English speaking pioneers. Unlike the Spanish, religion did not have a strong influence on English place names.

Another interesting influence in territorial Arizona and other parts of the West was the authority of the Post Office department in Washington D.C. In the days before rapid transportation and communication, postal service was the settler's only link with the outside world. A large number of post offices, spaced at close intervals, seemed to be the only way to provide communication. Accordingly, nearly every application for a new post office was approved. Many had brief lives.

Pool, a neighbor. The name was turned down by postal authorities. On his way to Benson, Herron met a Mexican carrying a large dead rattlesnake. When he asked the Mexican the name for the snake, the reply was, "Casabel." Herron decided to call his new post office by that name.

Postal authorities influenced the naming of places in still another way. The experience of a Captain Tuley in Washington D.C. is interesting. Tuley had charge of the establishment of new post offices throughout the United States for 30 years, beginning in the early 1880s, and all applications for new post offices passed across his desk. Often these failed to specify a name so Captain Tuley had to select one. Sometimes he honored a fellow postal clerk, and he named post offices for practically all of the children and babies in his immediate neighborhood in Washington. This may help to explain why it has not been possible to

Jackpot Town

by Jack Delaney



Among the many interesting attractions at Twentynine Palms, California, is the El Rancho Galapagos Cactus Nursery featuring every variety of cacti and other fascinating desert plants.



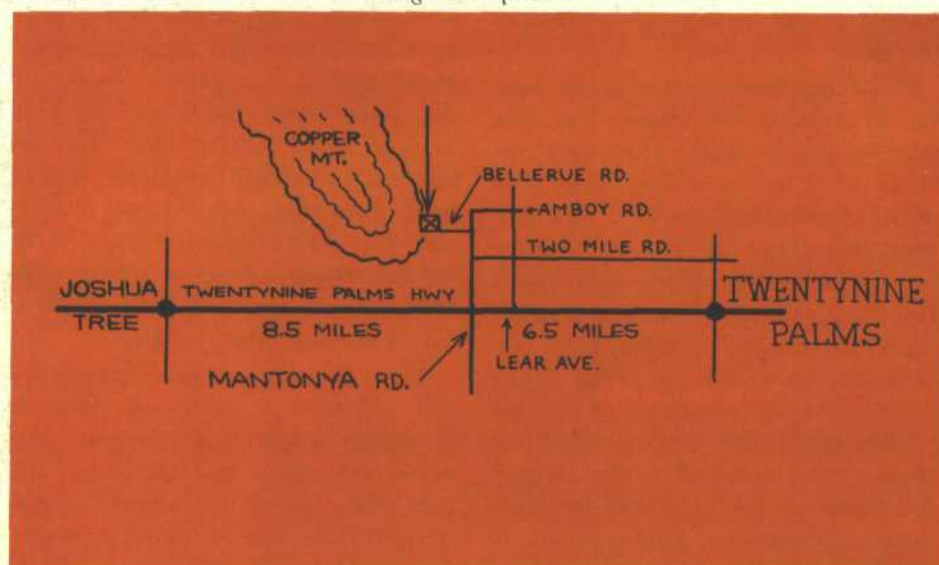
UST pick a town at random—any town—and you'll be amazed at the number of attractions it has to offer.

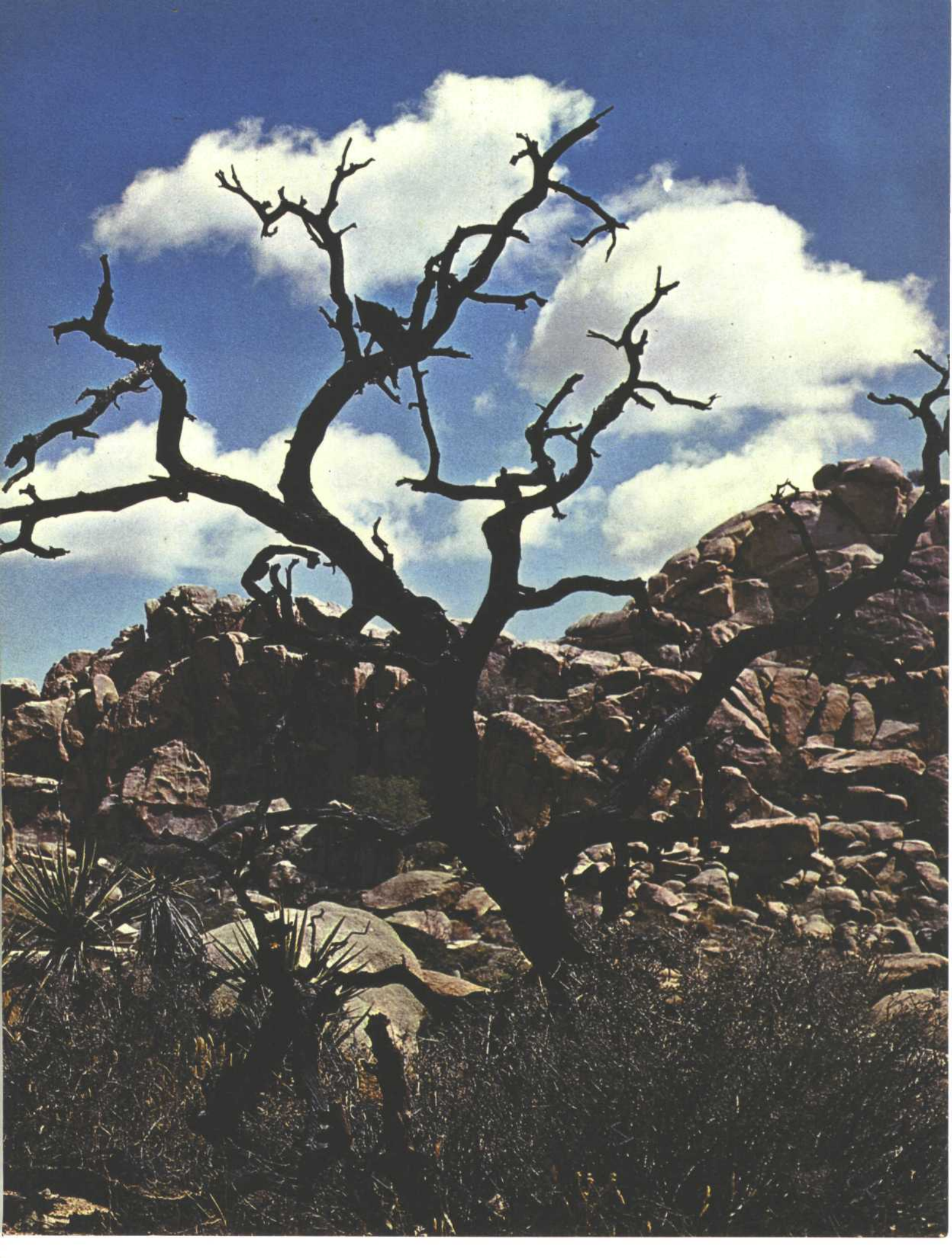
By exploring nooks and crannies off the beaten path, you will discover interesting spots missed by the average tourist. For our experiment in "geographical pot-luck," we picked Twentynine Palms. In our opinion we hit the jackpot!

Try this area for an enjoyable one-day trip in southeastern California. Drive the Freeway (Interstate 10) to the Twentynine Palms off-ramp; turn north on State Highway 62, popularly known as the Roadrunner Route; and continue about 50 miles to Twentynine Palms. This high desert setting is located on the borderline between the Mojave and Colorado deserts.

For an interesting interlude, before reaching Twentynine Palms, stop to visit El Rancho Galapagos Cactus Nursery. Watch for the sign (on the left) about 8½ miles north of Joshua Tree on Highway 62. Turn left on Mantonya Road and drive to the foot of Copper Mountain. You will be welcomed by Al and Mary Bellerue, the owners, and will spend a delightful hour or two viewing a unique assortment of cacti, some of which are part of their private collection and not for sale.

Among the many varieties that you may purchase are my favorites, the Old Man of Mexico and his female counterpart, the Old Woman of Mexico. Covered with scraggly white "hair," they may be shampooed when soiled. The Old







Exotic trees from all parts of the world, such as this Canary Island Pine, can be seen at the Rancho Environmental Nursery.

Woman has a Phyllis Diller hairdo. The Old Man has been known to grow a height of 40 feet (you should live so long), but the Old Woman stays short and, as might be expected, roundish.

Also available for viewing, or purchase, are Little Redheads with cute red topknots; Bishops' Caps that really look the part; Cigarette Cactus, long slender uprights whose blossoms grow parallel to the stems, appearing to be the lighted end of a king-sized cigarette; Grape Cactus with grapelike fruit that is dried and sold like raisins in Mexico; and perhaps a hundred other large and small specimens from North and South America. Cacti are native only to the Western Hemisphere.

In addition to a wide assortment of cacti, you'll see an assortment of wide

tortoises. The Bellerues are proud of 105 pound Ferdinand and his mate, 45 pound Isabella. (She's the friendly one.) They are giant Galapagos Tortoises. Also on exhibition are representatives of the four species of *gopherus tortoises*. These are native to California, Texas, Florida, and Mexico. You'll enjoy a visit to *El Rancho Galapagos* and find it difficult to break away.

Upon leaving, drive back to Highway 62 and proceed about 6½ miles to Twentynine Palms. A few blocks south on Adobe Road, near Sullivan Road, is one of the landmarks of this desert area—the one-acre Chemehuevi Indian Cemetery. No one knows how many Indians rest in this little plot, nor whether they represent two or more tribes. Although it is called the Chemehuevi cemetery, Serrano

and Cahuilla Indians also were in the area at one time. Around 1900 there were 60 graves here.

Indians reported living at Twentynine Palms in 1879 were identified as Paiutes. These probably were Chemehuevis, who are a southern branch of the Paiutes, most of whom lived along the Colorado River adjacent to the Mojaves. One of the best known Indians buried in this sand-lot cemetery is Chief Jim Boniface, known to whites as Old Man Jim, who was respected by the early miners and cattlemen.

For a combination of the past and present, drive along Highway 62 about a half mile east of the business district, to Utah Trail, then about four blocks south to the Visitors' Center at the headquarters of Joshua Tree National Monument. Allow plenty of time to fully cover this attraction. The spacious, modern building at the entrance offers museum exhibits, botanical displays, art work, and information service—all related to this region. After viewing the display of items indoors, be sure to stroll the half-mile Oasis Nature Trail. This is a feature of the Center.

Along the Nature Trail you'll see many interesting reminders of the past—some of which are still a part of the Southern California desert scene. In a short distance the trail leads from the sparseness of the desert into the abundance of the oasis. This location was known, originally, as the Oasis of Mara (mara is an Indian word, meaning "much grass and little springs") and was the birthplace of the present community.

You'll see an old well which served the early settlers, miners and homesteaders who hauled water for many miles from this single supply. It was carried in barrels loaded on horsedrawn wagons. During years of normal precipitation, the well overflowed into a sump-hole, forming a small pond for which the animals of the area were grateful. The pond is now dry.

A strand of *Arrowweed Pluchea* will be seen. The straight stems are still important in parts of the Southwest as a construction material for the walls and roofs of mud huts. Basket weaving and the fabrication of animal cages are other uses for these stems. Pima Indians even brewed tea from them, which they used as an eyewash. In arrow making, the

shafts were straightened by being slowly drawn through grooves in a heated stone arrow-straightener. (You'll see examples of this tool on display in the Visitors' Center.)

Another useful plant is the Western Honey Mesquite. The sweet-meated pods served as a source of flour for the Indians and for white pioneers. Believe it or not, the Indians processed the bark for babies' diapers and women's skirts. Bush Seepweed was used by the Cahuilla Indians to make black dye for use in artwork. Willow Trees are not native to this oasis. However, in the old days a teamster pushed his whip handle into the moist earth and it eventually grew into a tree! It just happened that the whip handle was a branch of a willow tree.

When Col. Henry Washington, who conducted a Government survey party through this area in 1855, first came upon the Oasis of Mara, he found ample evidence that only Indians had lived here. About 20 years later, white settlers started moving in and, according to rumor, counted 29 palm trees around the oasis. It is quite likely that this had something to do with the naming of the present community. Fortunately, the old-timers were good counters — otherwise the town might have been named "Lotsa Palms" or "Palms Galore!"

At one time in its history, Twentynine Palms was identified almost entirely with gold mining and prospecting. More than a hundred mines were scattered throughout this region, some of considerable size, all contributing to an important gold production. Until recently, a popular attraction for visitors was the daily conducted tours through the Golden Egg Mine. Karl Chappel, the owner, was happy to show his "diggin's" and mill to all who were interested. He passed away last August and the mine tours are no longer available.

Among the many artists who make Twentynine Palms their home is one who paints tiny wild flowers, lying in a prone position in order to properly view them. He calls them "belly-flowers," but perhaps the designation "belly-artist" could be applied to him. Henry R. Mockel is widely regarded as one of our foremost wild flower painters. Twelve of his paintings, commissioned by the National Park Service, are on display at the Visitors' Center in Joshua Tree National Monument. His art also appears on a

striking series of floral correspondence cards, available for purchase at *DESERT* Magazine and other shops in the West.

You can meet the Mockels (Henry and Beverly) by driving to the Pioneer Art Gallery in the Plaza, along Two Mile Road just west of Adobe Road. On exhibition are excellent examples of etching, watercolor, serigraph, and acrylic painting. Mr. Mockel, who has a keen appreciation for wild flowers, told us, "Most people come to the desert to see uninterrupted views of up to a hundred miles or more of scenery, but the land's real beauty, lying right at their feet, goes unseen." At times the desert floor is covered with colorful blooms. He captures their beauty without disturbing them.

Before leaving Twentynine Palms, one more unique spot should be visited. This is the Rancho Environmental Nursery at 71554 Samarkand Drive. Here you will meet Mr. McClure, a scientist who manipulates the growing habits of trees to the point where it could be said that he has made Nature his slave. In addition to Smoke Trees, Joshua Trees, Palo Verde, Cat's Claw, etc., the nursery features Carob Trees, Australian Desert Willow, Aleppo Hallipensis Pine, Canary Island Pine, and many other specimens that are uncommon to this area.

The magic of Mr. McClure's "extended habitat" process adapts high altitude trees to the lower desert areas, and

vice versa. Don't be disturbed if he tells you that: "Adaption of plants to *cold* consists of seasonal increase in protoplasm and metabolic capacity in the cells," or, "Adaption of plants to *heat* involves plant pathogens and the manipulation of thermolysin and heat-sensitive enzymes." Just smile as if you understand and reply, "I'll take one of these and two of them there!" This nursery of exotic trees is worth seeing.

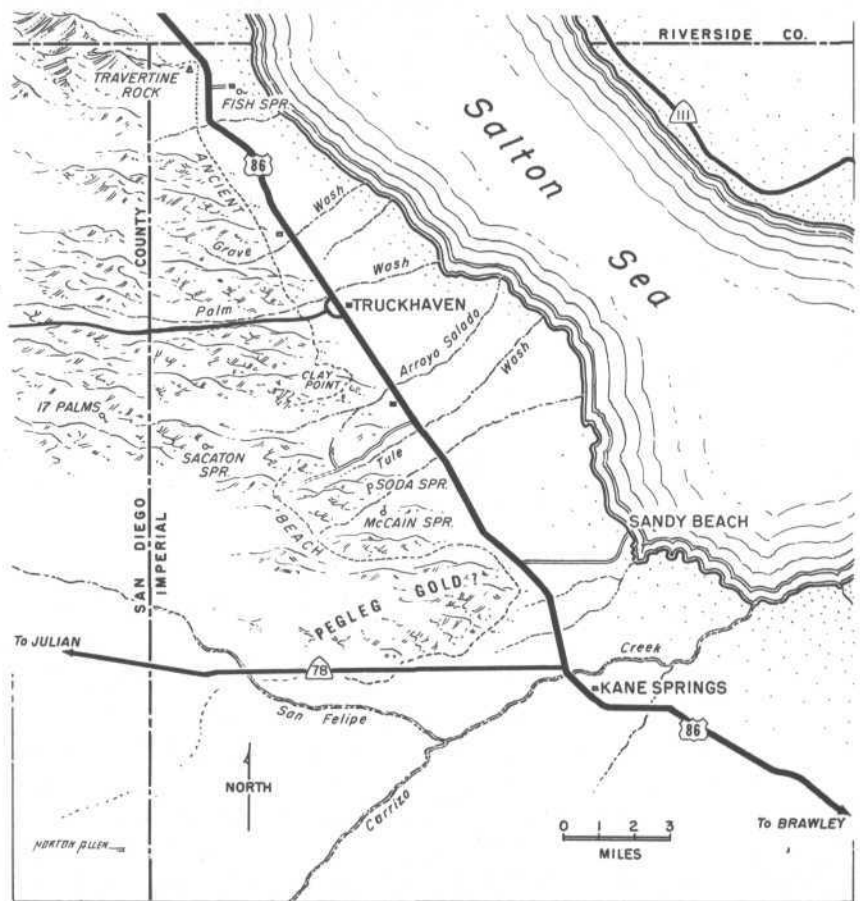
Twentynine Palms is a comparatively narrow strip with the world's largest Marine Corps Base along its northern boundary and the tremendous Joshua Tree National Monument to the south. Each of these developments is composed of more than a half-million acres. The site of the Base served the Army as a glider training center for 5 years, starting in 1940; then the Navy took over, using it as a rocket training center for a short time. In 1952 the Marines landed. They have the situation well in hand. Frequent events are staged with the public invited to attend, and the Base band is well known in Southern California.

I'm sure you'll agree that our random selection of a town for a one-day jaunt paid dividends, especially after you follow our trail and see the fascinating people, products and places that we enjoyed. Next time, you might want to spin the wheel of fortune and let it select a location for an outing. 'Round and 'round she'll go, and where she stops—*you* go!

□



Playing with the tortoises at the El Rancho Galapagos Nursery is a favorite pastime with the children. The nursery also has two giant Galapagos Tortoises.



A Logical Look at . . . the Pegleg Gold

by J. A. Lentz



LO THEY exist? There are many supporting factors that they do. One such factor stands above the rest — as numerous as they are, separated by years, race, and creed, almost all accounts of the location point to two general locations. Only those stories relating to the first Pegleg Smith discovery around 1829 will be discussed here. The other location is on the east side of the Salton Basin where, by coincidence, one discoverer of a later date was a pegleg named Smith.

Our first known account is from the original Pegleg himself. Later on one of his partners, reportedly named Price, filled in some missing details. It goes something like this; he and his partners left the Colorado River from a point

near Picacho or Yuma, or somewhere between the two. They proceeded westerly, presumably on horses, intending to travel to Warner's Ranch. On the third day out, about three quarters of the way to Warner's, they were caught in a sand-storm. The previous night they had camped somewhere east of the New River.

Partially blinded by the storm, they veered somewhat north of their course, went around a marsh with bubbling mud and ascended a long, low rise in the desert terrain. When the storm cleared, Pegleg climbed one of three buttes connected by hogbacks or saddles. Near or on this butte he found his black gold nuggets. He may have proceeded onward to a spring near a mountain, or backtracked around some badlands he saw, depending upon which story is true, but

let us concern ourselves only with where he found the gold, not with where he went later.

The key here is the New River and "bubbling mud marshland." The Salton Sea did not exist in 1829, but the mud pots near the south end of the Sea did exist. So let us proceed westerly and somewhat north of these mud pots, keeping in mind that in those days there were no roads, highways, nor civilization of any sort in this God-forsaken place.

The first long, low rise in the terrain is a group of low hills just north of Hwy. 78 and partially west of Hwy. 86. (Old Hwy. 99). There are three main hills from one to one-and-a-half miles apart. Their elevation averages only 200 feet. They are covered with small buttes, hogbacks and saddles. Due to the sheer simplicity of their location, could this be the home of gold sought for so many



Jack Pepper finds cairn in the area, which indicates mining activity.



Writer believes the black buttes in photo were once littered with Pegleg's gold.

years by hopeful prospectors? This location used to be difficult to reach, but not today—which could be the reason it has been passed over.

We now come to the story of the Doctor's befriended Indian at Warner's Ranch. He took the Doctor to Pinyon Mountain and pointed east saying, "When wind blow, Indian pick up gold."

There are three Pinyon Mountains. One is Pinyon Ridge, closer to Warner's. Another is Pinyon Mountain Area to the south. Between these two is North Pinyon Mountain. Pointing easterly from any of these mountains is to point almost directly toward our low range of hills north of Highway 78 and west of Highway 86.

Then along came the Indian woman

her husband. Having no water, she headed for the lights at Glamis. She was cared for by railroad employees there and had found black gold nuggets along the way. Her route from the south end of the Santa Rosas to Glamis would have taken her directly through those same low hills mentioned above.

An elderly Indian, Fig Tree John, who once resided near Travertine Rock, told of a low gray hill to the south of his home where Indians picked up gold after a desert cloudburst. Guess what hills are south of Travertine Rock?

A prominent mineralogist answered a request by DESERT Magazine concerning the existence of black gold nuggets on the low desert. He stated that they did exist and possibly there are concentrations of them in old river channels

the large body of water acted as a buffer, slowing down the moving material and allowing it to settle. The heaviest material would settle first; and that would consist of the gold and mineral-laden pebbles.

Now if this great river flowed from northwest to southeast, as the terrain now appears that it did, it seems that the best place to look for the gold would be in the hills at their northwest end, where the river dumped its heaviest load first. It would also make good sense not to wander too far from the old beach line.

More stories of gold found in and around the mouth of San Felipe wash exist, but not many concern black gold of the original deposits. Very probably the yellow, rewashed and recleaned gold that was found came from deposits of gold tarnished black due to its content of copper and silver.

Now we have progressed to our latest information concerning black gold nuggets. This information has been given us by a man who claims to have found over \$300,000 worth of these nuggets within 30 miles of the Salton Sea. I have personally examined them in the DESERT Magazine bookshop and they sure look and feel like the real thing. He did not give us the location of his find, but he sprinkled his articles to DESERT with plenty of clues. By comparing those clues with the low hills north of Highway 78 and west of Highway 86, the following information may be reasonably correlated:

1. The hills are within 30 miles of the Salton Sea.
2. They are within the circle of an early map reprinted by DESERT Magazine with his first articles.
3. There are pebbles on the hills that look like his photograph of the nugget area.
4. There is a dirt road from a wash back to a main highway just as he mentioned. To wit: up Tule Wash off of Highway 86, which is north of the hills and north of Highway 78.
5. From the end of this road and on up Tule wash, a large portion of the hills lie within a two-mile hike, the distance he walked to the gold.
6. This walk would be over uneven ground, as he also stated.
7. No mountain exists nearby, as ex-



Nugget circled is gold ore among rocks at site of modern Pegleg.

who was nursed to health by Mrs. Wilson, wife of a storekeeper at Warner's. She, referring to gold, simply stated, "Go down to the end of San Felipe, and on the mesa look north and see three buttes."

Now the San Felipe creek, wash, valley or canyon, which ever you prefer, tends to end only after it starts eastward from a generally north-south course. This "appearing end" of the San Felipe is near where it would have flowed into the ancient ocean, which is clearly marked by the ancient beach line. Looking north from here, upon the mesa, you will see our same three low hills and numerous buttes.

Another Indian woman traveled from the south end of the Santa Rosa Mountains after her boyfriend was killed by

which flowed east from Vulcan Mountain. Now just what is the main drainage east from Vulcan Mountain into the desert? You guessed it, San Felipe Wash and Creek. What is at the lower end of this wash? Our hills again!

These hills are all that remain of an eroded delta. They contain well-rounded stream- and tide-worn stones and pebbles. What causes these stone and pebble deposits? Our mineralogist friend tells us that thousands, perhaps millions, of years ago a mighty river ran through this area.

If he is correct, then during each and every storm (or heat wave which melted the glaciers) this great river carried millions of tons of earth, rocks and debris into the ancient sea. The minute the rushing torrent struck the surface waters,

pounded in his theory of the origin of the nuggets. He said he believed that the mountain which originally held the gold had eroded away.

8. Near the ancient beach line there could exist Indian rock rings two to two-and-one-half-feet in diameter, as he said he found in his nugget area. To wit: Prehistoric fish traps were built just below the high tide line. The fish came in with the waves at high tide. Then out again with the next wave, but were trapped on the sand by small rings of rock. The fish may have been grunion, which always pick the highest tide waves to carry them to spawn in the sand.

9. He found a Spanish buckle with his metal detector and suggested the nuggets could be on an old Spanish trail. Our hills area is very near an old Spanish trail. Los Puertecitos Historical Marker lies a few miles to the west.

10. Our modern Pegleg discovered his gold in 1955, but did not publicize the find until 1964. When he returned to the site after the find was published he found vehicle tracks in the wash he had driven up and footprints leading away from the side he had taken.

Away from the side of the Tule wash from the hill is a popular deposit of concretions. This may explain the tracks he found.

11. He also mentioned approaching the nugget area from a roundabout way. In one article he wrote, "Now that I know exactly how to get there . . ." This statement suggests that an easier approach other than the route he had taken on his accidental discovery, was found on a subsequent date. The hills may be approached from either Highways 78 or 86.

12. Another important clue is that he thoroughly searched the area for several miles in all directions with a metal detector. The location, then, must be easily traversed on foot. Our hills area is just such a place.

With less circumstantial evidence than this, men have been convicted of crime and others have built empires. Perhaps now a reader will find gold. A dream, a good metal detector, a jeep or sand buggy and enough time and patience to carefully search are all that is needed.

Any comments by the man who found Pegleg's black gold nuggets would be appreciated. □

Make Your Outings More Fun and Profitable Too!

Stop By And See Our . . .

Western Artifacts, Indian Collection, Jewelry Display, Lapidary Equipment, Tumblers, Gold Pans, Dry Washers, Books on Treasures and Lost Mines . . . and other items of fun for the entire family. For information just write to or call:

METAL DETECTORS

- Detectron
- Rayscope

Get the Best . . .
Top Guarantee . . .
Easy to Operate

From
\$75.00 to
\$165.00



Find
Gold
Old Coins
Treasures

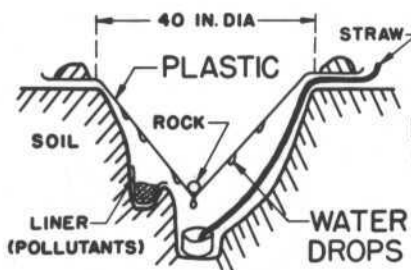
COMPTON ROCK SHOP

Ph. 632-9096

1405 South Long Beach Blvd.

Compton, California 90221

SUN STILL Survival Kit



**NEW PROCESS PRODUCES 1 TO 2
QUARTS OF PURE WATER DAILY
IN DRIEST DESERT**

A Reusable kit for Survival and a
Fascinating Experiment for the Young
Scientist. Easy to install and operate.

Complete Kit \$2.74

Send Check or Money Order to:

DESERT MAGAZINE

Palm Desert, California 92260

California residents add 12c sales tax

NEW!

**UNUSUAL
DIFFERENT**

AVAILABLE MID APRIL 1968

U.S. PAT. NO. 3,188,034

Worldwide Patents Pending

DICK CEPEK'S "BAJA-PROVEN"®

JERRY CAN CARRIER

ONLY \$4.95

MAIL ORDERS "POSTPAID"
CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ADD .25 SALES TAX.



ATTRACTIVE DESIGN

**FREE 52
page
CATALOG**

UNIVERSAL MOUNTING
FITS ALL VEHICLES & CAMPERS

HOLDS ALL G.I. TYPE
U.S. MADE GAS & WATER CANS

UNBREAKABLE
GUARANTEED 5 YEARS

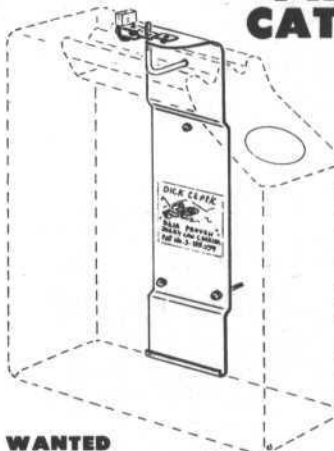
LOCKABLE
WITH ANY STANDARD PADLOCK

COMPLETE
WITH HARDWARE

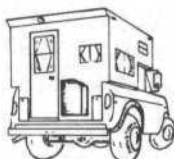
RATTLEPROOF

ZINC PLATED

RUSTPROOF



DEALERS WANTED



DICK CEPEK
9623-25 CALIFORNIA AVE.
SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA
569-1675

HOURS: Tues. thru Fri. Noon to 5. Sat. 8 to 5.
Closed Sun. & Mon.

EXPLORING PINACATE

by Robert Townsend



THE Pinacate Mountains of northwestern Sonora, Mexico are interesting and challenging to explore. They cover 500 square miles of some of the most desolate volcanic land in Mexico. When Glenton Sykes offered to guide our party there for a four day trip, we didn't hesitate to accept. Glenton Sykes' father was on the first recorded exploration trip into the Pinacates in 1907 and Glenton had been there more times than he could remember.

We left from Tucson, Arizona early one morning and crossed the border at Sonoyta. The northern edge of the volcanic beds reach to the border a short

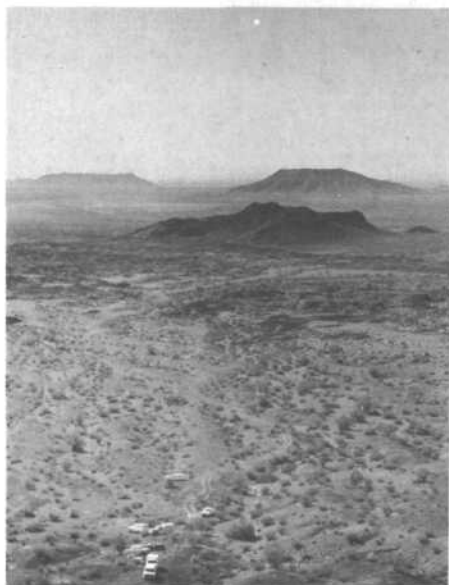
distance west of there. When we turned off the highway and onto the dirt road that led into the Pinacates, we felt like an astronaut must feel when he scans the surface of the moon. Vegetation consisted of ocotillo, cholla, mesquite and creosote and the road was coated with cinders. The only animals we saw were rabbits, although later we heard coyotes at night.

The craters are probably the most fascinating feature of the Pinacates. About 10 of the main ones are named. Of these, the most spectacular is Elegante, located on the east side of the mountains. It is 4800 feet in diameter and 800 feet deep. At one time this crater housed a fresh water lake.

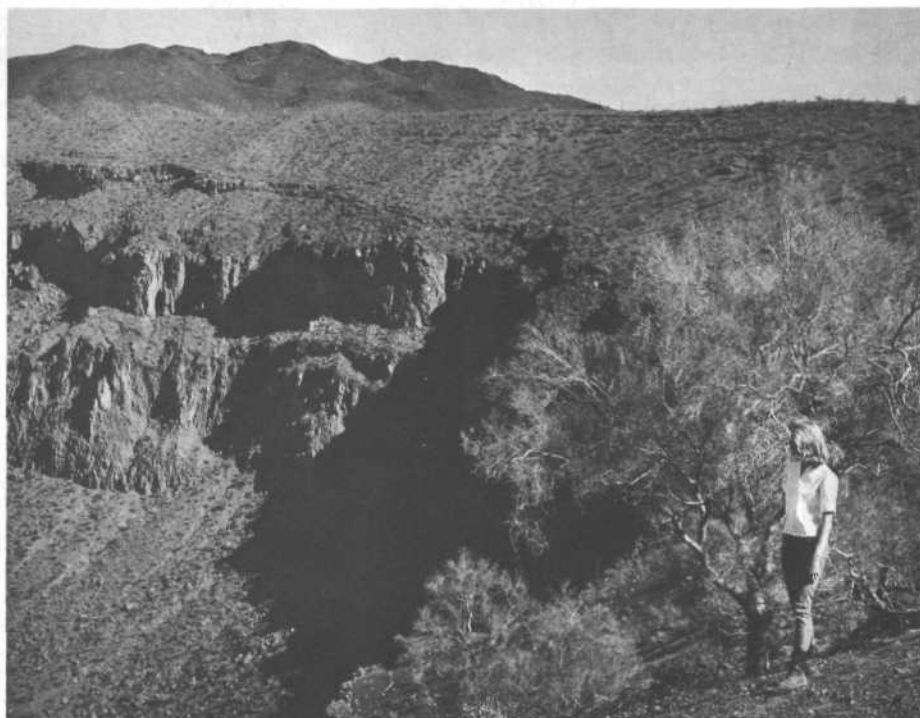
Sykes Crater is almost equal to Elegante, being 750 feet deep but not quite as large in diameter. Its rim circumference is three miles. In the bottom of the craters, growing inside a large circle, are saguaro cactus and other desert vegetation. These circular gardens are called botanical enclaves.

Molina Crater is the most unusual in shape of the group. When it belched out its molten lava some 1000 to 2000 years ago, it took the shape of a cloverleaf. The crater is 250 feet deep with a circumference of one mile.

McDougal Crater is 400 feet deep and on its floor, 50 feet above sea level, grow desert plants of several varieties. To get an idea of the immensity of these craters,



This desert botanical garden thrives on the sandy soil at the northwestern edge of the Pinacate volcanic mountains in Sonora, Mexico. It is a mystery how the ocotillo, saguaro and other desert plants grow on the lava covered ground.



A view of the southeast rim of Sykes Crater, the largest crater in the Pinacates. Its circumference at the rim is three miles.

compare them to Meteor Crater in Northern Arizona. Sykes Crater is about the same size as Meteor Crater, except that Sykes Crater is 200 feet deeper.

Cerro Colorado is the most recent of the volcanic eruptions in the Pinacates. Some say it may have formed only 200 years ago, others say 1000 years.



Tule Tank is a refreshing resting place. This natural water reservoir in the heart of the lava beds is filled with water in the spring.

An interesting feature of the Pinacates is the tanks or water catchments which are the only watering holes in the area. Papago, Tule, and Emilia are three of the best known. Lava rocks form the walls for these natural reservoirs. Their formation is interesting. Lava-covered ground surrounding them, especially at Tule Tanks, is flat and level, then abruptly a portion of the ground is removed like a piece of cake with one slice removed. The walls are straight up and down with the water perhaps 20 to 30 feet below, depending upon when the last rain fell. The tanks provide water for the few animals that live in the Pinacates.

Primitive Indian tribes once had settlements near the water holes. Pieces of broken pottery tell us of their existence. When the Indians moved their camps to

other places, the Pinacates were again unpopulated and for the most part unknown to anyone else.

The Gulf of California is only 10 to 15 miles away, but it is an extremely difficult few miles since most of the distance consists of sand dunes and saw-tooth granite mountains, although the mountains are slowly being buried by the dunes. Appropriately, they are called the Buried Range.

An interesting insect which inhabits the Pinacates is a beetle named the "Pinacate" beetle (*Eleodes armata*). The beetle instinctly stops in its tracks at any foreign sound and tries to bury its head in the sand. Often it is referred to as the beetle that stands on its head.

Cinder cones protruding from the rough terrain are noticeable in every direction. The peaks of Pinacate and Carnegie are the highest and most easily recognized cones in the area. Rising approximately 4200 feet is Pinacate. Carnegie is about 100 feet lower. Having withstood over a thousand years of erosion, the Pinacate namesake has no doubt been worn away and changed in many ways since its fiery birth. Lava caves are plentiful on the lower portions of the mountain range where they served as valves when the hot lava was spewing out. As the pressure built up to push the

lava out of the top, it sometimes had such great force that another vent was necessary and lava spewed out the side of the cone. Most of the caves are only a few hundred feet deep because, as the pressure decreased, the lava blocked the opening it had previously made. A number of narrow tunnels at the end of the 200 or 300 foot lava caves were formed when the lava cracked and segmented.

There is an Indian legend about one of these lava caves in the Pinacate Peak which tells about an Indian who did not want his woman to ever see another man so he took her through the lava tunnel to Consag Rock, which ejects into the sky from the Gulf of California. Completely surrounded by water, he felt sure she was safe and could only be his. Whether there is any truth to this story or not has never been proven. However, Consag Rock is of volcanic origin and could have been conceived at the same time as the Pinacate volcanoes.

The Pinacates are truly an interesting area to explore. With a guide as well-informed as ours, we knew what to look for and could better understand what we saw. We didn't see the big horn sheep he has seen on other trips several different times, but then we didn't climb quite to the top of Pinacate Peak, as he has often done. Next time that will be our goal. □



Climbing the slope of Sykes Crater in the Pinacates is a challenge. The crater is 750 feet deep with a diameter at the bottom of 1400 feet.

Mountain Climbing on the Desert

by Buddy Gene Mays



To many residents of our great Southwest, the barren desert mountains with which most of us are acquainted have been in the past few years offering more than just beauty. They have become a breeding ground of adventure to daring men and women who have deserted their easy chairs and Saturday afternoon football games to take up an inexpensive and popular sport—mountaineering.

A desirable feature of this activity is that you needn't be a millionaire nor a teenager to participate. It is a sport en-

joyed by both young and old when caution is employed by the individuals. Because of their iron-hard granite and easy access, mountains of New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and California offer some of the best rock climbing in the world.

Basic necessities for mountaineering include a sense of balance and confidence in yourself and your fellow climber. Skiers usually make good climbers because of their cat-like balance, but as important as balance is the trust that must be interchangeable between you and your belayer.

A good pair of climbing boots is also a must. Most experienced rock climbers

prefer a low-cushioned shoe with vibram lug soles. These are comfortable and light and will last for years, with proper care. Boots, like any sporting equipment, must be chosen for the user only. Prices range from \$6.00 for a pair of European climbing shoes to \$40 for cold weather mountain boots and purchases may be made from any of the mountaineering suppliers scattered across the country. Let me interject one personal note here. Beginners who climb in slick-soled boots may very soon discover a quick way to the bottom of the mountain.

A good climbing rope is also a necessity. Climbers should, when attempting anything that might be dangerous, be

Driving a piton into rock.



A good climbing rope is a necessity.



Dick Ingram takes a long step around



The mountain range the author climbed.

roped together and the leader "belayed." This simply means that each end of a 7/16 or 3/8-inch nylon rope is secured around the waist of the respective climber by means of a bowline knot. The second man on the rope, or belayer, then seeks a place where he can tie in to the rock by means of a sling or climbing rope or both. This protects the first man on the rope (leader) from a fall of more than the length of the climbing rope. The belayer's end of the rope is passed around his hips and grasped in both hands, creating friction and a slowing down action in case of a fall, but yet can be fed out easily as the leader climbs.

Pitons, carabineers, and slings are also important pieces of equipment, but these can be dangerous without proper handling. Pitons are steel wedges of various sizes, shapes and angles which are driven into cracks and fissures in the rock. A piton should fit at least 1/3 of its length into the crack before being touched with a rock hammer, and once it has been driven, should be tested carefully before trusting it with your weight. Into the secured piton is clipped a carabineer or steel snap ring with the snap opening inwards. Into this the climbing rope is hooked and the leader is ready to climb on. Distance between pitons is left up to the leader, but too much protection is always better than too little. Enough pitons should be carried so as to fit any crack encountered, since a piton on your belayer's belt will do you no good if you are 70 feet above him.

A light climbing pack is used to carry water, a first aid kit, and a lunch. These come in various sizes, shapes and colors and the choice is left up to the prospective buyer.

Over the years a group of short word signals have been developed by mountaineers to signify what must be done when a pair of climbers cannot see each other. Most are self explanatory and should be taught as basic climbing technique. Slack, uprope on belay, off belay, and tension are words which must be understood by all members of a team to protect themselves from what might be a fatal error. As a famous mountaineer once said shortly before he was killed, "When you lose, there is no next time."

Once the basics are understood, skill is developed by each individual according to his own taste and imagination.

Basic techniques taught in most clubs are few and simple. Beginners are taught to stay low and close to the rock and to use one and two fingered holds instead of the whole hand or palm. Learning to use one's legs for push instead of the arms for pull is also a necessity on long climbs. And again, when searching for holds, confidence that a hold will be found must be in the mind of the climber.

Let me stress that mountaineering, like all active and strenuous sports, must be learned correctly and be fully understood before being undertaken. A number of clubs throughout the Southwest

have been organized solely for the purpose of training beginning climbers.

Several rules which should be foremost in the mind of a climber when he is preparing for an ascent are as follows:

Don't climb alone.

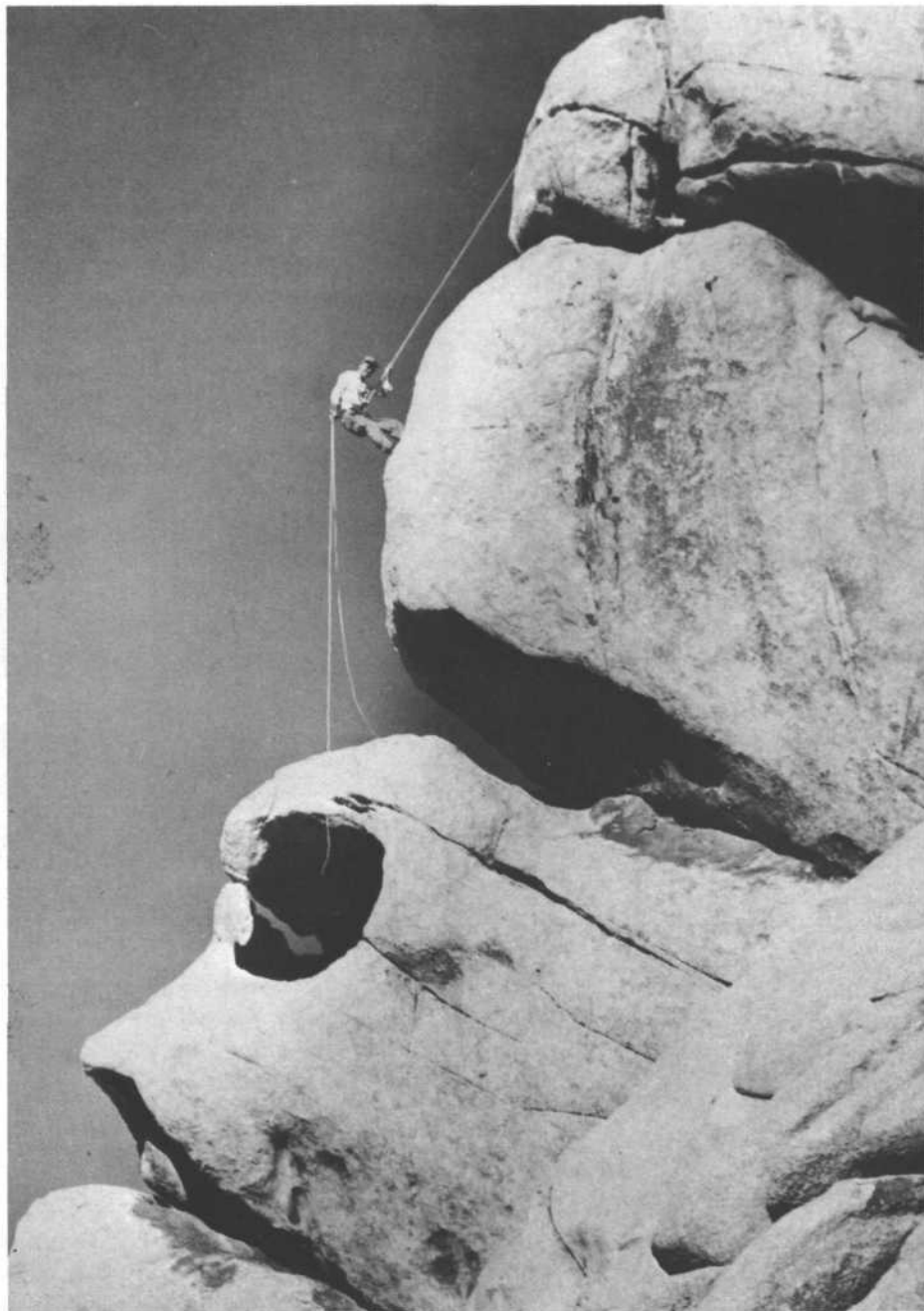
Notify someone as to where you are going and when you will return.

Climb with an expert, if possible.


Don't use cheap or faulty equipment.

Go prepared.

If you learn the right way to climb and obey these rules, you will discover a new and exciting way to live right at your doorstep. □



Mountaineering is a dangerous sport and must be learned correctly. A number of clubs have been organized to serve this purpose.



STOP

That thief with "LOCK STRAP"!

A revolutionary new design secures all G.I. fuel cans to itself and locks your gas filler cap - attaches to back of carrier. All steel construction - zinc plated.

Model D \$ 7.50

Dealers inquiries invited

LOCK STRAP

329 West Lomita Ave., Dept. D, Glendale, Calif 91204
California residents add 5% sales tax

Just Published

How 88,648 Heavy Smokers Stopped Smoking

NEW YORK — The Anti-Tobacco Center of America has just published a booklet which explains how 88,648 heavy smokers (of whom many are physicians) have stopped smoking without straining their will power. This booklet is available free of charge to smokers. All you need to do, to obtain it, is to send your name and address to The Anti-Tobacco Center of America, Dept. A-63-W, 276 Park Avenue South, New York City, 10010. This offer is open while the supply of these booklets lasts.

FREE-CATALOG



FUN & PROFIT
WITH

METAL DETECTORS

GOLDAK, WHITE'S, DETECTRON, RAYSCOPE

Prospecting and Hiking Equipment
Books — Topo Maps

FREE—Indexes for Topo Maps, stock Western states, each state has index.

JACOBSEN SUPPLIERS

9322 California Ave., South Gate, Calif. 90280
Phone 569-8041



MEXICO ARIZONA CALIFORNIA

in small parties

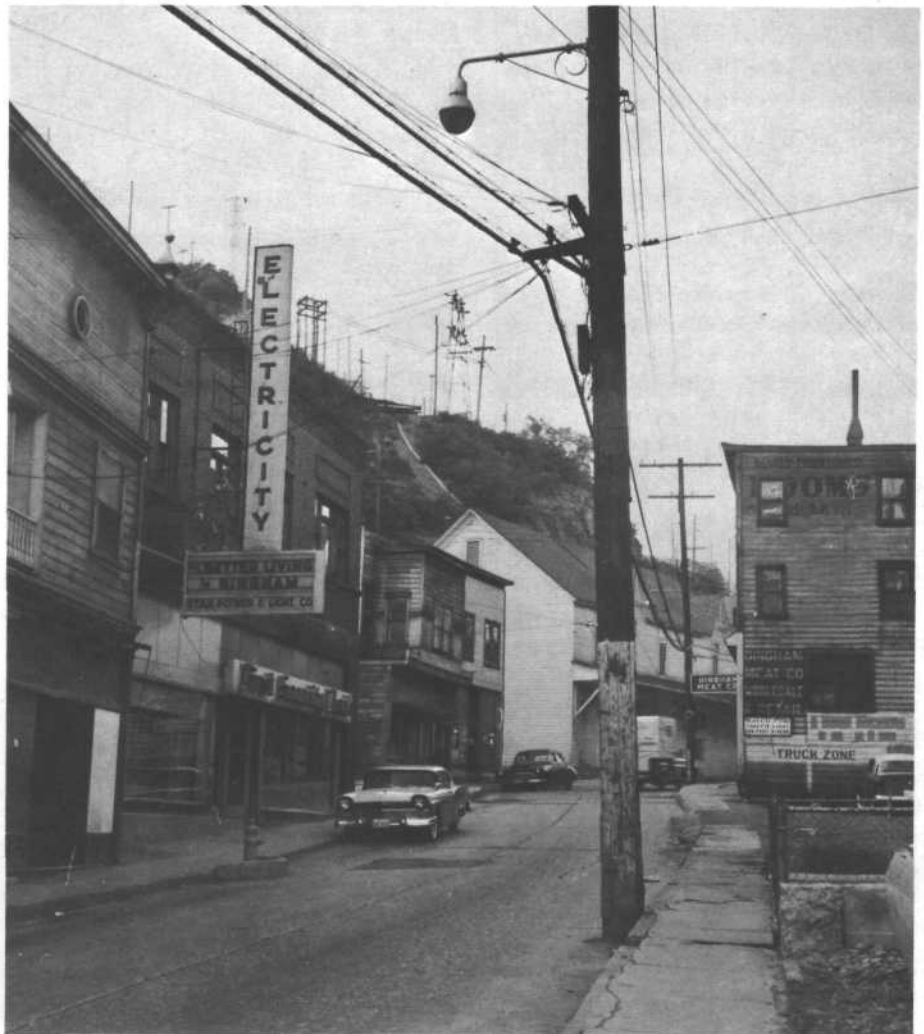
LEISURELY, escorted rail, auto, trail trips. Delight to nature lovers. Photographer's dream! ☆By rail to Grand Canyon, Mexico City, etc. ☆Gypsy motor tours to best of Arizona. ☆Pack trips in California High Sierra.

Spring, Fall:
GYPSY TOURS
Summer:
MUIR TRAIL
Fall-Winter:
RAIL TOURS

WAMPLER tours
Box 45-D, Berkeley 94701

Bingham, Utah

BY LAMBERT FLORIN



Author made last minute check by phone with Bingham Police to discover whether projected plans for modernization had been completed. They have not, though all buildings shown here have been removed and fire hydrants and poles are moved back of sidewalks, only partially alleviating the crush of traffic at shift changing time. Civic structures remain at turn-around at upper extremity of road.



WHEN Brigham Young first looked westward from the Wasatch he gazed in silence. Then he made the statement that stands as a classic in simplicity, "This is the place!" His forward looking eyes saw past the dreary waste of barren flats; they envisioned cultivated fields, burgeoning trees, substantially built houses. The spot would be a haven and for a long time free from invasion by harassing gentiles. The Mor-

mon leader was correctly prophetic on the first count, grievously wrong on the second.

Within two years the valley was criss-crossed by a maze of trails painfully worn by the tired feet of Argonauts seeking the gold they believed lined all creeks of the California Sierra. Many of Brigham's Saints would have joined the westward moving throng gladly, but to these he preached, "We cannot eat gold and silver, neither do we want to bring into our peaceful settlements a rough fron-

tier population to violate the morals of our youth, overwhelm us by numbers and drive us again from our hard won homes."

That a number of the faith defected, nevertheless, is shown in a scanning of any detailed map of the California gold country. Still shown are such place names as Mormon Bar, Mormon Trail, Mormon Island. The astute Brigham Young was well aware of increasing gaps in the ranks of his young men, the very ones who should be digging in the soil of Deseret rather than the gravels of Sierra creeks. In the late summer of 1849 he made clear to those still faithful to his edict how their wandering brethren might fair in the hereafter. "Do not any of you suffer the thought to enter your minds that you must go to the gold mines in search of riches," he said. "That is no place for the Saints. Some have gone there and returned; they keep coming and going, but their garments are spotted almost universally . . . The man who is trying to gain for himself the perishable things of this world and suffers his affections to be staid upon them may despair of ever obtaining a cross of glory."

Many of those Mormon men who went to the California gold fields happened by chance to be already on the scene in 1848. The "Mormon Battalion" had been organized to assist in the war with Mexico. Arriving in San Diego after an epic march over rough, unknown country, the soldiers found the war already finished. Many, not desirous of immediately returning to Salt Lake City, found jobs in California. Nine members of the famed Battalion were actually on the scene when James Marshall picked up that piece of gold in the tail-race of Sutter's Mill. These Saints, faced with a difficult choice between far-away Church and yellow metal under foot, took up shovels and gold pans.

The passing of the next few years dulled the glamour of California gold, slowing the exodus in that direction, but a new threat was fermenting closer to home. A few miles southwest of Salt Lake City the hills attained a sufficient elevation to support a bounteous growth of pine and scrub oak—trees valuable for lumber and fuel. In 1848 Young sent Thomas Bingham to survey the situation and if possible to start cutting trees. Bingham and his four sons immediately dis-

covered loose lumps of gold along one of the deeper gulches. Much excited, they rushed to show the nuggets to the boss. If they expected commendation and permission to begin mining instead of logging they were disappointed. As might be expected, President Young thoroughly squelched any thought of such deviation. Gold was a curse to man, he said, and if the news of its discovery so near the Mormon settlements should leak out, there would be the devil to pay. The expression wasn't a mere figure of speech; it was meant to apply literally.

During the following decade, activity in Bingham's canyon was confined to cutting and sawing of trees. It speaks for the powerfully inhibiting force of the man in Salt Lake that Bingham and his sons kept quiet about the gold, attending strictly to the business at hand. But others less obedient to the Church made the discovery on their own. One of these was a cavalryman under Mormon-hating General Patrick E. Connor, who had been sent out to subdue any Saints still practicing polygamy. The soldier brought a chunk of ore that held gold, silver and lead to Connor, saying that some of the men had been melting the stuff to make bullets for firing at game in the canyon.

Connor, already interested in metals and mining, recognized the material as a bonanza. More, he saw a chance to aggravate Brigham Young by bringing in large numbers of gentiles to begin a huge mining operation. He began his campaign by issuing a bulletin in March of 1864, this to the effect that all prospectors and miners would receive ample military protection from "any vicious attacks by Mormons, gradually overpowering the Mormons by sheer force of numbers, and thus wrest from the Church, disloyal and traitorous to the core, the absolute control of temporal and civic affairs." In a very few years the whole mountainous area surrounding Salt Lake City was being exploited.

As always in mining history, early interest was confined to gold, silver being noticed later. The richest placers were at Clay Bar, which produced \$100,000 in 1863. It was in the tailings there that Dan Clay found what was reported to be Utah's largest gold nugget—a chunk weighing to a value of \$128. Placer mines played out in 1870, the fortuitous arrival of rails spurring interest in more

There is still time to be a
CHARTER MEMBER
of



National Off Road Racing Association

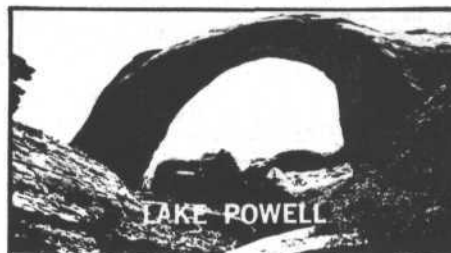
Sponsors of the Mexican 1000 Rally and the Las Vegas 7-11, NORRA was formed last year to sanction and promote off-road motor contests. For special advantages for members write:

NORRA, Inc.

19730 Ventura Blvd., Suite 6,
Woodland Hills, Calif. 91364

PLEASE ZIP!

Desert Magazine and Uncle Sam can handle your orders a day faster if you will include your zip code in ALL correspondence. And when MOVING please inform us as soon as possible and include both OLD and NEW ZIP CODES.



AMERICA'S

NEW VACATIONLAND!

LAKE POWELL

RAINBOW BRIDGE

GLEN CANYON DAM

TRIPS from ONE HOUR to FIVE DAYS
SPECIAL ONE DAY TRIP to RAINBOW BRIDGE

Fishing unexcelled. Water Sports. Finest photography. Complete Marina. Boat and Motor Rentals. Accommodations. New Motel. Trailer Park.

Write for Information

ART GREENE
CANYON TOURS, INC.
WAHWEAP LODGE and MARINA

P. O. Box 1597 Page, Arizona
Phone 645-2448

JEWELRY CRAFTS CATALOG



FREE!

196 pages

Lapidary—rockhounding
—jewelry making... add up to
a fascinating creative art!

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG

World's largest selection—over 10,000 items
offered...imports from all parts of the world.

STONES—JEWELRY MATERIALS—MOUNTINGS
BOOKS—CRAFT TOOLS—MACHINERY—SUPPLIES—ETC.

GRIEGER'S, INC.

Dept 52 —1633 E. Walnut—Pasadena, Calif.

GET CRAFT'S BIGGEST CATALOG



THINKING OF BACKPACKING?

Get your free brochure on
.KELTY Pack.

Find out why Kelty Pack is preferred by practiced backpackers. Write for free literature and backpacker's checklist.

Dept. D, P.O. Box 3453
1807 Victory Blvd.
Glendale, California 91201

.KELTY Pack.

As featured on T.V. the experts agree:

KOVACS

CUSTOM MADE METAL DETECTORS
ARE THE BEST

Detect Gold Nuggets and Coins
Interchangeable Loops
Lightweight - Waterproof
4 Years Warranty - Free Literature

MIKE KOVACS

4118½ Verdugo Road
Los Angeles, Cal. 90065 Phone 255-1129

Authorized JEEP

Sales and Service

LARGEST SUPPLY OF
NEW AND USED JEEP PARTS
IN THE WEST.

Looking for a Jeep—Try us!

BRIAN CHUCHUA'S
FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CENTER

Dept. DM 1625 S. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, California



See
HELLS CANYON
by JET BOAT

DEEPEST GORGE IN NORTH AMERICA

A safe—thrilling family excursion on the fabulous Snake River. Deep into the primitive area of Idaho and Oregon—magnificent scenery—abundant wildlife and comfortable quarters at journey's end. Fully licensed and bonded guides.

Write or Phone for Descriptive brochure and reservations.

HELL'S CANYON EXCURSIONS, INC., Box 368-D
Lewiston, Idaho • Phone (208) 5H3-7701

permanent hard-rock mining, especially at Bingham Canyon.

By 1900 there were 30 saloons in the gulch. Miners, who in the beginning amused themselves with sports of a virile nature, like boxing, gradually turned to the softer sport of gambling. Faro, craps and roulette took precedence over drilling contests. When movies came to Bingham the more affluent saloons used free films to draw customers while patrons stood in darkened cubicles to watch the flickering miracle.

As population grew from a few hundred to a couple of thousand, the town expanded, but of necessity was restricted to the narrow V-shaped gulch. Business buildings and residences vied for space along the one crowded street. A few scattered, unpainted shacks strewn themselves up and down the steep slopes, these connected by stairways. Residents hailed from many lands, but found no space in which to be clannish, propinquity breeding a certain camaraderie. With class distinctions lacking, everybody spoke to everybody else and girls from the red-light houses mingled freely with respectable housewives. General amiability was only occasionally punctuated by quarrels.

By this time gold mining was almost forgotten, as silver had been the main product for some time. Although everyone observed the permeating presence of copper sulphides in the predominantly lead-silver ore, the red metal was largely ignored. A silver panic in 1893 changed all this and led to a tremendous expansion as the mining of copper took over. In 1899 some \$12,000,000 changed hands. John D. Rockefeller became the main stockholder in the Utah mine. A smelter was built at Murray and a tram run extended to link another near Tooele. Copper, so long a stepchild, was found to be averaging from three to forty percent in the ores. Prices were high and ore reduction easy.

Just when Bingham should have been enjoying undisturbed prosperity, the town became torn by labor troubles, long strikes and violence. Attracting more national attention than these plagues, however, was the never-determined fate of Rafael Lopez. Lopez came to Bingham as a strikebreaker, then stayed on as a miner after the trouble subsided. One night on the street he beat up a Greek worker caught in the act of assaulting a young

girl. At least that was what Lopez claimed. After serving a jail sentence for his "good deed" he became more than a little resentful towards the law and became involved in one act of violence after another, finally shooting to death one Valdez who had drawn a knife. Tracked and apprehended miles from town, Lopez turned on the posse and killed three officers. He then backtracked to Bingham where he forced a friend named Stefano to outfit him with clothes, weapons and bedding so he could hole up in the Apex Mine. Stefano informed the police, who subsequently set up blockades all around the entrances to the mine. When officers attempted to enter the tunnel, three shots rang out from inside. One man fell dead, another was badly wounded.

In an effort to dislodge the unwilling Lopez, police set up smudge pots at the openings. Loaded with sulphur, cayenne pepper and damp gunpowder, the vile fumes should have done the job. Two hundred miners waited, out of work for five days, while the heavy smoke penetrated. After enough time had elapsed to clear the mine, all galleries were thoroughly searched. Found were clothing and bedding of the fugitive, but Lopez himself had vanished.

Around 1907 shafts and tunnels had penetrated so deeply that further mining became impractical. It was then that a brilliant young engineer named Daniel C. Jackling devised a system previously unknown—the "open pit" method. Because of its head start, the Bingham Mine soon became the largest open pit mine in the country. A few years later the vast Kennecott industries took over.

Crowded conditions in Bingham Canyon became so intolerable that the company started a town just below, the new center named Copperton. Here were built attractive cottages along wide boulevards which offered every attraction to workers and business. Many were reluctant to leave their old homes and buildings, though, and the one narrow thoroughfare up the canyon to the mines became plugged with traffic, particularly during shift changes. At last the company resolved to wreck the old town and pave the canyon floor. Hearing of the impending change, this reporter hurried to the canyon in 1961 to make a series of photographs of the city that soon would be no more. □

NEW IDEAS by V. LEE OERTLE

CLAMP ON MIRROR

Here's a handy side-view mirror for those who tow boats, trailers, or all-wheel-drive vehicles. Just insert the twin bracket-legs into the wind-owsill, where glass is recessed in door. A tension-spring and lower support-arm keeps it steady in a three-point suspension that won't vibrate, can't fall off—yet it's instantly removable by just lifting it off. No need to drill holes or deface your new car or pickup, the usual problem and the usual drawback with ordinary side-view mirrors. The Velvac is the wide-angle type, which gives a larger view and covers more of the rear area. At a cost of \$11.95 a pair, from Velvac, Inc., 2081 So. 56th Street, Milwaukee, Wis. 53219.

PLASTIC TOOL CARRIER

It's the slickest idea since the invention of non-rusting tool kits. This new tough plastic tool container is built like a cut-away bucket, with a handle on top. Tools, nails, bolts, pliers, brushes, and a score of other small handy items can be inserted through top-holes, where they ride firmly and can't fall out—yet remain convenient for quick usage. The Tool Caddy is priced at \$3.95 from Recreational Products Division, Rubbermaid, Inc., Wooster, Ohio 44691.



OPERATE TABLE RADIO OFF CAR BATTERY

This new device is a compact power inverter, which simply takes the 12-volt battery in your vehicle and steps it up to 110-volt current. Use it in car, boat or coach with equal success—anywhere you have a storage battery. This means that you can take along your favorite home-type table radio and play it in camp. Just plug it into cigarette receptacle. That's all there is to it. Costs about \$14, from J. C. Whitney & Co., 1917 Archer Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60616.

SOLID-STATE FIRE STARTERS

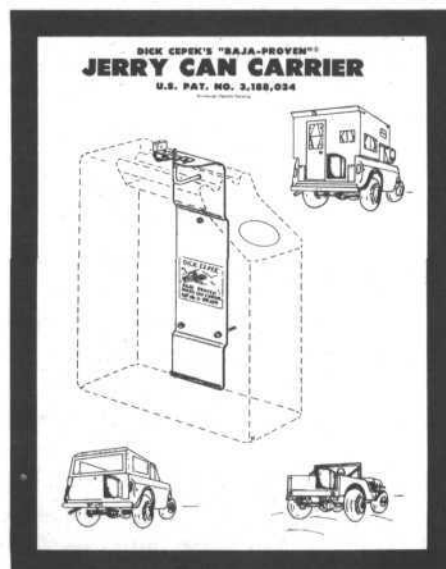
Now they've done it. They've developed a handy new material resembling rocket fuel which is made of petroleum distillate. These pure-white 1¼-inch cubes, 24 to the package, are absolutely dry to the touch, unlike those sticky fire-starters you've seen before. Even after 15 minutes submersion in water the new Fire Starter cubes burst instantly into flame at the touch of a match. Each cube has the equivalent of one-half cup liquid petroleum in it. One observer said that flames held up to 18-inches in height for over nine minutes before the cube burned out. No bad tastes are passed along to foods cooked over a fire started with these solid-state starters, either. For only 98 cents, you can get a package of 24 of these amazing little Fire Starters. They're supposed to be available through all sporting goods stores after March, 1968. They're made by Burnzomatic Corporation.

ESTWING MAKES NEW TOOL

This widely respected old company, which has produced all those thousands of rock-hammers, has now announced a new Trim Square for Desert Handymen. It eliminates the use of a mitre-box, lets the home craftsman make square or angle cuts with precision using his own saws. Building a desert cabin, camper coach, or boat? Then you'll appreciate this little gem. It's only \$2.98, from Estwing Mfg. Co., 2647 8th Street, Rockford, Ill. 61101.

NEW FUEL & WATER CAN CARRIER

A workable method of attaching jerry cans to the back or side of a vehicle has eluded many inventors, even though some other devices are being marketed. This new idea is from Dick Cepek, a well-known Baja adventurer. The new Jerry Can Carrier is made of unbreakable materials, so the cans won't get lost. In the past, some kinds of fasteners crystallized under the severe vibrations such Baja roads produced. The carrier mounts to any flat surface, complete with mounting brackets. It is lockable with any standard padlock, and it won't rattle or rust. You can get more info from Dick Cepek, P. O. Box 181, South Gate, Calif. 90280.





BACK COUNTRY

FOUR WHEEL CHATTER

by Bill Bryan

How I love these winters with so much jeepin' time. I took in the Tierra Del Sol Safari and what a turnout . . . over 500 vehicles were in camp. The San Diego group had a real well laid out camp with lots of trash bins and rest-rooms. They initiated something I hope other clubs will think about; a large registration fee to cover the club expenses and only allow one door prize ticket per entry. Only a few said they thought the registration fee of \$5.00 was a bit stiff—but for value received it was a good buy.

While there Ron and Pat Parkinson of Fallbrook, Harold and Dot Hawthorne from Phoenix, Doc Ahlene from Kingman, Jim Teague, Han Hamilton, Vern and Flo Slankard and Carol and I from Indio invaded the Boondockers Jeep Club campsite where singing stars Jack and Ginger Nunnely and Bob Smith entertained us by singing the Jeepers Song.

We returned to Indio via Coyote Canyon from Borrego Springs. Three of us were towing G. I. trailers but we had no problems even though there was flowing water in the creek beds. I hope the plans to pave this route never evolve. This is one of the finest areas in the desert for people to get out and enjoy nature and hike through the desert hills.

Other weekend jeepin' I have been doing lately was a trip to the southern Borrego area (not in the state park) where we followed an old wagon trail. Our mission was to try and find the remainder of the Spanish sword found by Mr. Pegleg and sent to Desert Magazine by this mysterious person (see Desert, Dec. 1967). We had been told someone had found some Spanish metal in this area. Although we spent the entire day criss-crossing, the only thing we found were some Indian potsherds, but I think there is something we missed.



Tony Argento, president of the Grass Valley 4-Wheelers, receives Desert Magazine's Conservation and Preservation Award from Bill Bryan during the recent convention of the California Four Wheel Drive Clubs in Fresno, Calif.

Something that did not get into last month's column because the editor says I write too much was our meeting with the Chuckwalla Jeep Club having their annual outing near Plaster City. After having a barbeque on them . . . led by Trail Boss Bill Bedwell . . . we woke up Sunday and had an unexpected air show when we watched Navy planes coming into the adjoining bombing range . . . by the way, be sure and watch for those restricted signs and stay out when it says stay out as early morning bombs don't mix with scrambled eggs for breakfast.

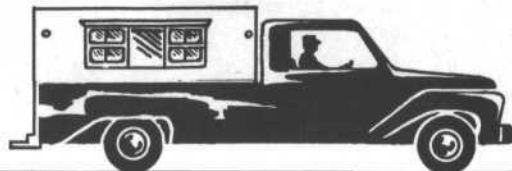
Later we saw another sponsored racing event and helped a couple who had turned over their 4WD. Fortunately they had a Rockett Products Roll Bar which saved them from injury. Bill Morrison, Earl Hughes and Frank Robinson among others put the 4WD back on its tires with

little harm done to either people or equipment . . . which shows once again, always have some type of strong roll bar and seat belts if you are going to challenge those hills.

Dune Buggy Rentals

For those back country enthusiasts who don't have time to trailer their 4WD or dune buggies to the Coachella and Imperial Valley areas they can now rent Volkswagen dune buggies in Indio at A-1 Rents. For information call Area Code 714 DIAMOND 79448 or just stop by. This is a public service announcement since many people have asked at Desert Magazine if back country vehicles can be rented in the area.

TRAVEL



Calendar of Western Events



The Fast Camels Four Wheel Drive Cruise sponsored by Indio's Sareea Al Jamel will be held this year May 3 through 6 in the Orocochia Mountains near Indio, Calif. All 4WD enthusiasts are invited to attend the popular event. In addition to many other activities the two main runs will be held Saturday; one for the rough and rugged drivers wanting to test their vehicles, and the other for families who will be taken on an all-day scenic tour through the area. For details write Dick Orson, P. O. Box 526, Indio, Calif. 92201.

Information on Western Events must be received at DESERT six weeks prior to scheduled date.

APRIL 27 & 28, RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY FLOWER SHOW, Riverside Armory, 2501 Fairmount Blvd., Riverside, Calif. Adults 57 cents, children under 12 with adults free.

MAY 4 & 5, TOURMALINE GEM & MINERAL SHOW, Helix High School, 7323 University Ave., La Mesa, Calif. No dealers.

MAY 4 & 5, 14TH ANNUAL SAREEA AL JAMEL 4 WD Cruise. A family outing and fun event. For details write P. O. Box 526, Indio, Calif. 92201.

MAY 4 & 5, SAN DIEGO ANTIQUE BOTTLE CLUB SHOW & SALE, Scottish Rite Memorial Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio, San Diego, Calif. Free admission.

MAY 10-12, ARIZONA STATE ASSOCIATION OF 4WD CLUBS annual convention. Write to Tucson Jeep Club, P. O. Box 4127, Tucson, Ariz. 85717.

MAY 11-26, 42ND ANNUAL JULIAN WILDLIFE AND ART SHOW, Town Hall, Julian, Calif. Fresh mountain and desert wildflowers gathered daily.

MAY 16-19, CALIFORNIA UNIT, AVION TRAVELCADE CLUB SPRING RALLY, Elfin Forest, junction of Harmony Grove and Questhaven Road, near Escondido, Calif. Limited to Avion trailer & camper owners.

MAY 18 & 19, SEARCHERS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY'S 9th annual show, Retail Clerks Union Auditorium, 8530 Stanton, Buena Park, Calif. Free admission, free parking, prizes.

MAY 18 & 19, YUCAIPA VALLEY GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, Grange Hall, 13365 Second St., Yucaipa, Calif.

MAY 18 & 19, SAN JOSE ANTIQUE BOTTLE SHOW & SALE, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, San Jose, Calif. Write Doris Sekevec, 677 N. Central Ave., Campbell, Calif. 95008.

MAY 25 & 26, AMERICAN RIVER GEM AND MINERAL SHOW, Rancho Cordova Community Center, 2197 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, Calif. Open to public, no admission.

MAY 30 & 31, LAS VEGAS JEEP IN family 4WD fun and events. Write to Las Vegas Jeep Club, Inc., P. O. Box 1874, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

MAY 30-JUNE 2, SACRAMENTO JEEP CLUB'S annual Gold Country 4WD Classic. Write Sacramento Jeepers, P. O. Box 9201, Ft. Sutter Station, Sacramento, Calif.

JUNE 8 & 9, ROLLIN' ROCK ROUNDUP & GEM & MINERAL SHOW, Oakdale, Park, Glen Rose, Texas. Write Doyle Cooper, Box 398, Glen Rose, Texas 76043.

JUNE 8 & 9, SOUTH BAY GEM & MINERAL SHOW, Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, Calif. Free admission and parking. Experts and beginners. Write Ron Wood, 944 S. Eucalyptus Ave., Inglewood, Calif. 90301.

JUNE 11-13, NORRA CROSS COUNTRY 7-11 RACE, Las Vegas, Nevada. For back country vehicles. Write NORRA, 19730 Ventura Blvd., Suite 6, Woodland Hills, Calif. 91364.



"Does that sign mean you're open twenty four hours or the job takes that long?"

Trading Post CLASSIFIEDS

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

OUT-OF-PRINT books at lowest prices! You name it—we find it! Western Americana, desert and Indian books a specialty. Send us your wants. No obligation. International Bookfinders. Box 3003-D, Beverly Hills, Calif.

"OVERLOOKED FORTUNES" in minerals and gem stones; here are a few of the 300 or more you may be overlooking: uranium, vanadium, tin, tungsten, columbium, tantalum, nickel, cobalt, gold, silver, platinum, iridium, beryllium, emeralds, etc. Some worth \$1 to \$2 a pound, others \$25 to \$200 per ounce; an emerald the size of your thumb may be worth \$1000 or more; learn how to find, identify and cash in on them. New simple system. Send for free copy "Overlooked Fortunes in Minerals," it may lead to knowledge which may make you rich! Duke's Research Laboratory, Box 666-B, Truth or Consequences New Mexico 87901.

NOW A BOTTLE BOOK with color. "Antique Bottles," by Marvin and Helen Davis, is loaded with beautiful photos, many in full color. A very beautiful and informative book. All bottles are priced. Send \$3.00 to Old Bottle Collecting Publications, P.O. Box 276, Ashland, Oregon 97520. Dealers Inquiries Invited.

"A GUIDE For Insulator Collectors" (with prices). 127 pages, 168 insulators described, sketched and priced, 4 group photographs, copies of 10 patents, copies from old catalogs—and more. An exciting new collecting field, start now and don't be sorry later. By J. C. Tibbitts, order from me at "The Little Glass Shack," 3161 56th Str., Apt. B., Sacramento, Calif. 95820. \$3.00 (plus 5% tax for Californians) plus 25c for mail orders.

LOST DESERT GOLD, legendary and geological history of the southern California desert, with photos and maps to pinpoint locations. \$2.50 postpaid. Gedco Publishing Co., Box 67, Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

NEVADA TREASURE Hunters Ghost Town Guide. Large folded map. 800 place name glossary. Railroads, towns, camps, camel trail. \$1.50. Theron Fox, 1296-C Yosemite, San Jose 26, California.

ARIZONA TREASURE Hunters Ghost Town Guide. Large folded map 1881, small early map, 1200 place name glossary, mines, camps, Indian reservations, etc. \$1.50. Theron Fox, 1296-E Yosemite, San Jose, California.

SURVIVAL BOOKS! Guerrilla Warfare, Wilderness Living, Medical, Guns, Self Defense, Nature. Books—Vital, Fascinating, Extraordinary; Catalog free. Adobe Hacienda, Route 3, Box 517A, Glendale, Arizona 85301.

GUIDE TO MEXICO'S gems and minerals: localities, mines, maps, directions, contacts. English-Spanish glossary, too. \$2.00 postpaid. Gemac, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

FREE 128 page catalog on detectors, books and maps. General Electronic Detection Co., 16238 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

"ASSAULT ON BAJA," E. Washburn, 3934 Cortland, Lynwood, Calif. \$2.00 tax included, "zest of discovery" writes Belden; "wide-eyed experience" says Powell USC.

BOOK FINDING is our business. Service is our product. No charge for search. Satisfaction guaranteed. D-J Book Search, Box 3352, San Bernardino, Calif. 92404.

FOR SALE: First six years Desert Magazine, complete and in good condition. Make offer. Box 834, Desert Hot Springs, Calif. 92240.

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

"GEMS & MINERALS," the monthly guide to gems, minerals, and rock hobby fun. \$4.50 year. Sample 25c. Gems & Minerals, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

"OLD MINES AND Ghost Camps of California," (statewide for 1899), by Ekman, Parker, Storms, Penniman, Dittmar; 148 pages, \$3.50. "Old Arizona Treasures," by Rascoe, from the old archives, \$3.00. "Old Mines and Ghost Camps of New Mexico," by Jones, reprint of 1904, 214 pages, \$4.00. Postpaid. Frontier Books, Fort Davis, Texas 79734.

COMPLETELY NEW—Excitingly different! "101 Ghost Town Relics"—Beautiful color cover, lists over 140 relics, over 100 relic photos. Article on restoring, utilization of relics. A price guide included. \$3 ppd. Wes Bressie, Rt. 1, Box 582, Eagle Point, Oregon 97524.

FRANK FISH—Treasure Hunter—said Gold is where you find it. His book "Buried Treasure & Lost Mines" tells how and where to look, 93 locations, photos and maps. 19x24 colored map pinpointing book locations. Book \$1.50. Map \$1.50. Special: both \$2.50 postpaid. Publisher, Erie Schaefer, 14728 Peyton Drive, Chino, Calif. 91710.

FREE TRAVEL NEWSLETTER: GO—the adventure newsletter tells the unusual, unique, exciting, out-of-the-way places for vacation travel throughout the world. Introductory offer—only \$3.50 a year. We'll send your first exciting issue free. Write GO, Box 571, Barrington, Illinois 60010.

BIG! 170,000 word book; \$2.50. "America by Car" names best places to eat, stay, historical sights. Includes Mexico and Canada. Ohio residents add 4% sales tax. Daughters, Inc., 229 Canal St., Antwerp, Ohio 45813.

"THE OLD BOTTLE EXCHANGE,"—Bottle collectors own monthly publication. Subscribe today, \$4 year, receive free 50 word ad credit. Sample 25c. OBX, Box 243, Bend, Oregon 97701.

WILD & WOOLLY WEST books: Narrow Gauge Trains, Twain's Jumping Frog, Service's Yukon Poems, Uncle Jim's Pancakes, \$1.00 each. Zuni Indians \$2.00. Send stamp for illustrated catalog. Filter Press, Box 5-D, Palmer Lake, Colorado 80133.

JOB APTITUDE/INTELLIGENCE TESTS! Increase I.Q. score 25% plus on any aptitude test and land that job. Results guaranteed 100%. Self-scoring tests. The complete, on-target, booklet, \$1.00. Thumbnail Books, Box 888-E7, San Jose, Calif. 95106.

• EQUIPMENT - SUPPLIES

HELICOPTER, BUILD easily for \$600, using automobile, outboard motor, motorcycle parts. Ideal for prospecting. Drawings, specifications, information, \$2. Helicopters, Box 1117, Leesburg, Fla. 32748.

GOLD DRY WASHER plans, portable hand operated, recover gold from gold diggings from dry river beds, etc., by air principle. \$2.00. R. Brown, P. O. Box 791, Arcadia, Calif. 91006

• GEMS

CHOICE MINERAL specimens, gems, cutting material, machinery, lapidary and jewelers supplies, mountings, fluorescent lamps, books. Sumner's, 21108 Devonshire, Chatsworth, Cal.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD

★ Mail your copy and first-insertion remittance to: Trading Post, Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, California 92260. Classified rates are 25c per word, \$5 minimum per insertion.

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS IS 10TH OF SECOND MONTH PRECEDING COVER DATE.

• GEMS

DESERT ROCKS: Each specimen large enough to cut. Chalcedony rose, petrified palm, petrified wood, turquoise, chapenite, rose quartz, Horse Canyon agate, rhodonite, dumortierite, idocrase. More than 10 pounds for only \$10 plus postage. American Gem Shop, 74-271 Hwy. 111, Palm Desert, Calif. 92260.

SHAMROCK ROCK SHOP, 593 West La Cadena Drive, Riverside, California 92501. Parallel to Riverside Freeway. Phone 686-3956. Come in and browse; jewelry mountings, chains, supplies, minerals, slabs, rough material, equipment, black lights, metal detectors, maps, rock and bottle books.

POCKET GOLD, \$2. Placer gold, \$2. Gold dust, \$1. Attractively displayed. Postpaid. Money-back guarantee. Lester Lea, Box 1125D, Mt. Shasta, California 96067.

• HOME STUDY

LEARN OIL painting by mail. Also casein or acrylic. Amateur, advanced. Easy, fascinating, naturalistic. Easy payments. Art, Box 486, Montrose, Colorado.

• INDIAN GOODS

FINE RESERVATION-MADE Navajo, Zuni, Hopi jewelry. Large selection of old pawn and Kachina dolls. Navajo rugs, Yei blankets, Chimayo blankets and vests, pottery. Kaibab moccasins. A collector's paradise! Open, daily 10 to 5:30, closed Mondays. Buffalo Trading Post, Highway 18, Apple Valley, Calif.

AUTHENTIC INDIAN jewelry, Navajo rugs, Chimayo blankets, squaw boots. Collector's items. Closed Tuesdays. Pow-Wow Indian Trading Post, 19967 Ventura Blvd., East Woodland Hills, Calif. Open Sundays.

• MAPS

SECTIONIZED COUNTY maps — San Bernardino \$3; Riverside \$1; Imperial, small \$1, large \$2; San Diego \$1.25; Inyo \$2.50; Kern \$1.25, other California counties \$1.25 each. Nevada counties \$1 each. Include 5 percent sales tax. Topographic maps of all mapped western areas. Westwide Maps Co., 114 West Third Street, Los Angeles 13, California.

COLLECTORS' ITEM: 1871 geographical map print, rare issue, Los Angeles, Kern, Ventura, San Bernardino areas. All old stage, freight stops, trails, roads, towns, etc. 18" x 24" rolled. Oma Mining Co., P.O. Box 2247, Culver City, Calif. 90230.

RECREATION MAPS—Kym's Guides, Colorado River, High Sierra, Salton Sea, Baja California, northern California, Sacramento River and many others. Send for fee list. Book: "The Salton Sea—Yesterday and Today" by Mildred de Stanley, \$1.25 p.p. Triumph Press, Inc., P. O. Box 75445, Sanford Station, Los Angeles, Calif. 90005.

UTAH TREASURE, relic hunters ghost town map. Mining camps, forts, stage and railroad stations, Pony Express, emigrant, Spanish trails. \$1.00. George Thompson, 105 Whitesides, Layton, Utah 84041.

• MINING

UTAH ASSAYING CO., gold, lead, silver, copper, mercury, \$1.50 each; platinum \$3 each. Spectographs \$5 each. 172 North 9 west, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116.

Letters and Answers

Letters requesting answers must include stamped self-addressed envelope.



In the February, 1968, issue I was pleased to read in "Back Country Travel" of the work done by the Los Paisanos Four-Wheel Drive Club to enhance the cleanliness of the Santa Rosa Mountains. If only others were as concerned about the out-of-doors, California would certainly be cleaner and more enjoyable. The "Idiots Billboard" at Travertine Rock is a public disgrace and a permanent mar on the landscape.

The photo shows desecration of the historical marker commemorating the Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition through the Ocotillo Wells area enroute to the foundations of the City of San Francisco. As you can well see, some sick person used this publicly owned plaque to display his Citizen Band radio call letters.

Another painting on rocks was the work of a San Diego family. Fortunately, we came upon them while the father was taking pictures of his boys painting the rocks. The family spent the following Sunday on another outing, removing the paint from the rocks. In addition to donating the day's labor, a fine of \$56 was paid in the Ramona Justice Court.

Keep up your excellent articles and reminders that the California landscape is not expendable.

WESLEY E. CATER,
Park Supervisor
Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

Paging Mr. Pegleg . . .

In reply to William Deane's question in the February, 1968 Letters regarding the water worn rocks in my letter in the November, 1967 issue in which he states these water worn rocks have not been mentioned in previous Pegleg articles, it is due to information I have had for many years regarding the black nuggets that I was able to determine the wash and where Mr. Pegleg parked his jeep. From there I knew which direction he had to walk the two miles. After I had walked the approximate two miles I am certain that I was in the vicinity of the hot spot. The water worn rocks are a clue which, like Mr. Pegleg, I do not want to pinpoint.

Incidentally, to Mr. Pegleg—I am still waiting for an answer to my questions in my letter to you in the November, 1967 issue. Also, I was out in the area a few days ago and noticed a fresh track in the area. I assume you have been checking recently?

BILL BEAN,
Sun Valley, Calif.

Where's the Smelter? . . .

After reading "Head For Pioneer Pass" by Jack Pepper in the January, 1968 issue, we headed for the pass. The road at the crossroads at the stand of Joshuas was like a Los Angeles freeway. Every third driver waved us to stop, brandishing a copy of Desert and asking "How do you get to the Spanish smelter?" We never did find it and I am sure no one else did or there would have been a waiting line to the highway. We want to try again so could you be a bit more explicit? We owe many pleasant desert hours to Desert.

A. S. LILLY,
Whittier, California.

Many readers have made the same inquiry. It is extremely difficult to find the Spanish smelter. I did not know it existed until a friend showed it to me. Unfortunately the VW buggy I was driving did not have a mileage gauge. After leaving the intersection of the road to Mound Spring, keep left. After going through one or two washes you will climb a hill; near the top on the left is a turnoff where you park under several trees. Walk down a steep road to the creek bed, then left down the creek bed about a block. There it is. PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THE SMELTER, LEAVE IT FOR OTHERS TO ENJOY. Jack Pepper.

Mystery . . .

A rancher took me to see a rock carving near Boulevard, California, which has on it a small cross above the date 1792. About three miles away is another carving on a rock seven feet tall with a concave front. In the concave is the date 1874 with figures below it which resemble cattle brands. I wonder if a reader would know about them?

We are avid relic hunters for Indian ollas in this area and have found them in the Davies, as Ted Haney wrote about in the February issue, but ours had been patched with pitch or bee's wax rather than with tar, as Mr. Haney described his.

LA VERN McCAIN,
Boulevard, California.

More on Arrowhead Springs . . .

In March "The Mystery of the Arrow" attracted my attention because I am acquainted with some of the operations of the present owner of Arrowhead Springs. A statement in the article is in error. The ownership was transferred to Campus Crusade for Christ International in the summer of 1964. This organization is spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ on college and university campuses throughout the world. While the organization welcomes visitors to its headquarters, it is an inter-denominational Christian activity dedicated to reaching the soul of man for salvation, not merely to providing pleasant, entertaining activities for visitors. There are, however, various training courses, meetings, conferences and so on held throughout the year, open to their staff and/or the general public.

HUGH J. McSPADDEN,
Riverside, California.

Darwin Alive . . .

After reading a letter in DESERT about Darwin, I would like to say that it is very much alive. We have two lots up there with a trailer and all of the other lots in Darwin are sold. A store and the Rock House Cafe is open and the school is about to reopen, if it hasn't by now. Right in Darwin there are moon-shaped caves first the Indians, then the Chinese lived in. We found opium bottles and colored glass in them. We took our 4-wheel drive within ten miles of the town and found an old mine. All of the houses are open, with furniture and newspapers dating back to 1920 and 1951 just as they were left. In one house the table was set. We hope it stays that way.

SHIRLEY WOODY,
Riverside, Calif.

Pinpoint Plexus Proposal . . .

More than 50 letters have been received in answer to the proposal by Robert S. Plexus in Letters and Answers in the March, 1968 issue. Mr. Plexus said he would give the location of what he believes is a gold deposit in the San Bernardino County Cady Mountains providing the person who worked it would give 10 percent of the proceeds to charity.

Since publishing his letter Mr. Plexus has sent us the location of the alleged gold deposit. Desert Magazine is not stating the gold deposit exists. Mr. Plexus believes it does. To publish the location he gave would start a minor gold rush, so we have selected the name of the person we feel is most qualified to check out the claim and have sent him the location. A charity will be selected if the gold is produced. To others who sent queries we want to express our thanks here since there are too many letters to answer. We will continue to keep our readers informed on this project.

We've Been Framed . . .

Would you believe? I have a gripe about the Desert Magazine? I love the big 2-page colored pictures you put in the center of the magazine but could you manage to put something of no interest on the backs—you see I snitch them out when my husband isn't looking and frame them.

F. P.,
Anaheim, Calif.

Donation Appreciated . . .

This is to express the heartfelt thanks of the Junior Class of White Pine High School for your donation of a subscription of your fine magazine to our local nursing home. Your fine articles on the American West will provide many hours of enjoyment for the patients.

You may be interested to know that we are now visiting these people regularly. The Junior girls are also planning a fashion show to be held in the home in the near future.

MARIE HORTON,
White Pine.

Travel Guides

Plus Other

Fascinating Articles on the West

The back issues of DESERT MAGAZINE are as alive today as the day they were printed. Packed with information and detailed maps on out-of-the way places of the West, the articles are also historically informative for both adults and students. Here are 10 back issues to enrich, enlighten and entertain you and your friends.

All TEN Issues for only \$2.00

To make room on the shelves for summer inventory we are making this special offer which is good only as long as they last. Not only do they contain the subject matter listed below but are also filled with other exciting articles and stories on the West.

COACHELLA VALLEY ISSUE, March '63
THREE DAYS IN DEVIL'S CANYON, Aug. '55
ICICLE AGATE IN THE SILVER PEAKS, Sept. '56
DISCOVERING FABLE VALLEY, March '59
THE PALM, PRINCE OF DESERT PLANTS, April '59

THE FRANCISCANS' SALINE MISSIONS, June '59
ALPINE ISLAND IN THE DESERT, July '59
A NATURALIST IN BAJA, Aug. '59
DESERT IMP, THE GROUND SQUIRREL, Sept. '59
WHAT IS SAND?, Oct. '59

Other Specials

1965
VOLUME
12 MONTHS
3.50

1966
VOLUME
12 MONTHS
4.00

PRESERVE YOUR COPIES IN A HANDSOME BROWN VINYL BINDER
HOLDS 12 ISSUES — DATED OR UNDATED

Only 3.50 Including Tax and Postage

Mail all orders to: Dept. D , Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, Calif. 92260

Personal Check or postal order must accompany all orders. Be sure to include your complete mailing address.